Chair for State of

the course

BURNE ME

William Con

King receives calls from Algerian president, Saudi crown prince

LONDON (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received a telephone call from Algerian President Liamine Zeroual congratulating him on his recovery and return home. President Zeroual also congratulated the King on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr, wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity. The King thanked President Zeroual and congratulated him on the Fid. On Sunday night, the King received a telephone call from Crown Prince Abdullah Ben Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, who congratulated him on his recovery and expressed good wishes on the 'Eid. King Hussein voiced his good wishes to the prince, continued good health for King Fahd and further progress and prosperty for the Saudi Arabian people.

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تابِمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

Beigrade expels top OSCE official in Kosovo

BELGRADE (AFP) - The Yugoslav government on Monday declared the head of the international trucemonitoring team in Kosovo to be persona non grata and ordered him to leave the country in 48 hours. The announcement, in a communique released on Taniug news agency, came amid growing international anger at a massacre in Kosovo last Friday that left around 45 ethnic Albanians dead. The statement said the Yugoslav government had "examined the activities of William Walker, head of the Kosovo Verification Mission of the OSCE, and determined that they were in flagrant contradiction with the arrangements of the OSCE Mission agreement" (see earlier stories on

Volume 24 Number 7048

AMMAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1999, SHAWWAL 2, 1419

Price: Jordan 200 Fils

Crown Prince congratulates Turkish PM on 'Eid

AMMAN (Petra) - His mation of his new cabinet.

Dutch to hear El Al crash testimony next week

Al cargo plane into a densely à parliamentary committee set up to look into the accident mark the culmination of a fourmonth inquiry started in Octoaircraft's load. Dutch newspapers have said the plane, which ploughed through a tower block in Bijlmer, was carrying and making will be ingredients used in making Anothelian tearlie sarin nerve gas. At least 50 people were killed in the crash.

CIA to return missing East German spy files

could lead to new arrests of cold war spies.

Norway to drop charges against ex-Mossad agent

agent suspected of leading_an Israeli hit team that murdered Moroccan waiter Norwegian wife in the town of Salameh, a PLO intelligence this succession Israeli athletes at the 1972

London denies ^{intervention in}

LONDON (AFP) — The British Foreign Office on Monday denied reports that a Botish warship had intervened in the civil war in Sierra Leone. The U.K. has not taken any military action and does not mend to," a spokesworman Said Sierra Leonean rebel commander Sam Beckarie earlier Monday accused the British navy of shelling its Positions in Freetown. A British frigate Francisco. is currently anchored of the coast of Freetown. coast of Freetown.

Million Spike OSLO (AP) - The Mossad the wrong man in 1973 will probably never face trial in Toly Page 18 18 Norway due to lack of evi-WHAT AND BY dence, the Oslo state's attorney CLUTTING BE said Monday. On July 21. CANDON CAREE han handle and killed as he returned from a let diameter the movies with his pregnant THE P. ALARIN VICTORIA Lillehammer. A small Israeli assassination team apparently thief suspected of mastersuspected of master-minding the killing of 11 brack arhierer identified as Mossad agents served brief prison terms for murder before they were par-

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday received a phone call from Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit with whom he exchanged congratulations on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr. The Turkish prime minister voiced his happiness for His Majesty King Hussein's recovery and safe return home. Prince Hassan congratulated the Turkish premier on the for-

AMSTERDAM (R) - Public hearings into the crash of an-El populated Amsterdam suburb in 1992 are to start on Jan. 27, said on Monday. The hearings ber to unravel the riddle of the

 $(E(\cdot,A)^n) = A \frac{h\pi}{4}$ BONN (R) — The United States will return to Germany foreign intelligence files from the former communist East Germany believed to include lists of the names of agents who spied for East Berlin, the government said on Monday. The files were bought by U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agents nearly 10 years ago in the chaotic aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The amouncement follows news that the German government's Gauck agency, which is charge of secret police archives, had cracked the code used by East German spy chiefs, which

of Westerners SANAA (R) - Yemeni authorities were on Monday in

family of four, a Dutch embassy official said.

We are in contact with Yemeni authorities. We know that they are in contact with the kidnappers. Contact is going

the capital Sanaa when they were kidnapped on Sunday.

added.

He said there were no indicailar case to last month's abduc-Britons and an Australian -

A Yemeni interior ministry official had earlier said the govemment had assured Britain and the Netherlands it would not use force. He said the hostages were believed to be

area called Tart. "We believe the kidnappers are tribesmen wanting the release of one of their people who is in prison," the official

The British embassy in Sanaa referred calls about the latest hostage crisis to the Foreign Office in London. In London, a Foreign Office

spokesman said British and Dutch officials were working with Yemeni authorities to try to secure the hostages' release. British officials urged the authorities not to use force, he said.

"I can confirm that two British people have been kidnapped in Yemen," the spokesman said. "Our ambassador Vic Henderson and all his staff are working extremely hard to establish what has happened, and to secure the release

of the hostages. "Naturally we are emphasising to the Yemeni authorities that they should not use force to try to secure the hostages'

release," he said. He said Henderson was working closely with the Dutch ambassador in Yemen and that between them they had spoken to the interior and foreign ministers and the prime minister's

Middle East experts said the remote location of the kidnappings suggested Yemeni tribesmen were involved.

They speculated the tribesmen might be staging a "copycat" kidnapping after rumours that a ransom was paid for the release of another British hostage, oil worker John Brooke, who was seized by on Jan. 9 and freed a few days later

His kidnapping happened just two weeks after the four Western hostages died in the shootout

Those deaths were the first in six years of kidnappings in Yemen, where more than 100 Westerners have been abducted

King returns today

By Caroline Faraj

AMMAN - Rain or shine. more than one million Jordanians are expected to hit the streets today to welcome His-Majesty King Hussein back home to Jordan after a sixmonth absence.

The nationwide arrangements for celebrating the King's arrival at around 3:00 p.m. were nearing completion Monday for the long-awaited moment between the leader and his peo-

During his late night tour of sites prepared for the event, Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh described the mood in the country as highly emotional, adding that it was an exciting moment, especially

after such an extended absence. "Everybody has waited too long to receive His Majesty back in Amman in good health, and that's the most important thing," said Tarawneh.

"His Majesty, as always, has been a warrior and a believer, and we thank God that he is coming back in good health to resume his work as our leader," the premier added.

Stressed how the King has followed up closely on all developments while undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in the U.S., Tarawneh said, "Even during the King's treatment by chemotherapy, he was on top of everything."

"He was in direct contact with HRH Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and myself, and all the institutions in Jordan, and fulfilling his role as the country's leader," the premier said.

"But now His Majesty is back in Jordan, and that will definitely change the whole picture and the whole mood of the people because everyone is overjoyed and very optimistic." the prime

Asked about the comprehensive changes that the King is expected to make before return-

ing in March to the U.S. for medicai check-ups, Tarawneh responded, "I think His Majesty was very decisive about that in his official remarks that were issued in a statement late Sun-The premier was referring to

a statement issued by the Royal Court wherein King Hussein denied news reports alleging that he had reached agreements with U.S. officials while in Washington on sweeping reforms that would determine the future of Jordan and its lead-

"There are some political and economic issues that the King is expected to tackle, in addition to some regional issues," he told journalists Monday evening.

Asked to comment on the issue of succession raised recently by the media. Tarawneh said: "As the King has stated, he is the only one to decide on such issues; he was very clear in Sunday's letter." The King addressed the

nation Saturday in a televised speech from London where he has been recuperating. The King announced he would initiate a programme of sweeping reforms with the "ini-

tiative, resolve, determination and strength that you have always known in me." Commenting on possible reform measures, a university professor told AFP Sunday that crisis would make the "struggle

against corruption more of a

priority than ever." As for public reaction to new measures, the professor said. "Jordanians are ready to live modestly as long as their country is run by trustworthy offi-

Prince Abdullah congratulates Jordanians on King's return

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah on Monday congranulated the Jordanian people on His Majesty King Hussein's recovery and imminent return home. In a telephone interview with Jordan Television, Prince Abdullah thanked God for King Hussein's recovery and safe return. The Prirate said words cannot reflect the immense joy all Jordanians feel as they await the King's arrival. He said the last several months have been very difficult and have taken a heavy toll on all Jordanians. "Every hour was as heavy as a day, and every day was as heavy as a month," said Prince Abdullah, who added that "we prayed to God for the King's recovery."

cials who don't fill their pockets with cash from the treasury."

The country's celebrations, to include fireworks displays, are expected to end on Thursday with a procession of around 300 flower-covered cars passing through the streets of the capital. Aerial displays, military parades, dancing troupes and poetry recitals are also part of

the planned festivities. Other governorates are holding similar celebrations which also coincide with the country's observance of 'Eid Al Fitr, marking the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

The King will pilot his plane, escorted by military aircraft, into Marka military airport, where he will be greeted by Royal family members, ministers, parliament members, and Arab and foreign dignitaries.

Reports from the governorates say that people have already started celebrating the King's return with national songs and dabkeh dances in the

Governors have made arrangements for transporting thousands of people to and from Amman to take part in the celebrations. Arab leaders expected to join

Jordan's celebrations and greet

the King today are the emir of

Quar, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the crown prince of Bahrain.

Several other Arab and foreign leaders may visit Jordan during the coming few days to wish the King well.

Dubai announced Monday that Crown Prince and Defence Minister General Sheikh Mohammad Ben Rashid Al Maktoum is due to visit Jordan on Wednesday to convey the King the greetings of the emir of the United Arab Emirates. Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, and vice president, prime minister and ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Maktoum Ben Rashid Al Maktoum.

Sheikh Mohammad will be accompanied by a high-level delegation.

The King received several cables and telephone calls from leaders and officials from all over the world.

On Monday, Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon congratulated the King ahead of

"Your presence is needed to strengthen cooperation between Israel and Jordan and the peace process for all the residents in the region," Sharon said in his greeting message for 'Eid Al

Yemen said in touch with captors

contact with the kidnappers of a British couple and a Dutch

on," said the official. He said the Dutch family, including two boys aged six and seven, and the British couple had been travelling in three cars from northern Yemen to

He said the men worked at a hospital in the town of Sadaah north of Sanaa. The Dutch family had been living in Yemen for several years, he

He refused to comment on whether Yemen had assured Britain and the Netherlands that it would not use force to free them.

tions the kidnapping was a simtion of 16 Western tourists by Islamist militants. Four members of that group - three were killed during a shootout between the militants and Yerneni government forces.

unharmed. held by tribesmen in a northern

> by disgruntled tribesmen only to be freed safely later.

'Arafat considers delaying statehood in deal with U.S., EU' OCCUPIED JERUSALEM nationalist hardliners in Israeli

(AFP) — Yasser Arafat is considering a plan to delay his unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood from May until December 1999 in exchange for clear U.S. and European backing for Palestinian selfdetermination, diplomats and Palestinian officials said on

Monday. Western diplomats said the United States, with European backing, had proposed a fivepoint proposal under which Arafat would agree to put off for several months his intention to unilaterally declare Palestinian statehood on May 4, when interim peace accords

with Israel expire. The proposal reflects U.S., European and Palestinian concerns that an independence declaration would spark a major confrontation with Israel and strengthen the hand of

national elections scheduled for May 17.

Israeli Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu has warned that his government would respond to a unilateral Palestinian proclamation of statehood by occupying parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip still under Israel's control.

in exchange for postponing the statehood declaration until therend of the year, the United States and the 15-nation European Union would declare more clearly than in the past their support for Palestinian self-determination, the diplomuts and senior Palestinian

officials said. The plan also calls for Israel to freeze construction of Jewish settlements in occupied areas pending the outcome of negotiations on the borders and exact powers of the Palestinian entity, they said.

The deal requires these final status negotiations to begin immediately following the second round of the Israeli elections on June 1 with a target date for completion of Dec. 31.

Finally, the proposal stipulates that Israel must fully implement the U.S.-brokered Wve River interim peace accord which Netanyahu suspended last month, citing what he said were Palestinian violations of the deal.

The agreement, which requires Israel to withdraw from more of the West Bank, sparked a revolt by hardline nationalists in Netanyahu's coalition and led last month to the calling of early Israeli elec-

tions for May. Given the deadlock in negotiations with Netanyahu's govemment. Palestinians insist they have the right to simply

declare the creation of their state when existing peace accords expire in May.

Senior Palestinian officials said Arafat wanted to meet with U.S. President Bill Clinton, hopefully in March or April, before making a final decision on postponing the declaration.

ment of statehood beyond Dec. 31, they said. "At that date, whatever happens, a Palestinian state will be proclaimed," one senior offi-

Arafat is also insistent that he

will not postpone the achieve-

cial told AFP on condition of anonymity. A declaration of statehood on Dec. 31 would coincide with the launch of Bethlehem 2000 festivities being organised by the Palestinian National Authority for the start of the

new Millennium. It would also mark the 35th movement, celebrated on Jan. in commemoration of the first military operation claimed by the group against Israel.

Netanyahu has focused the election campaign of his rightwing Likud Party on playing up the perceived dangers of Palestinian statehood and charging that opposition Labour Party leader Ehud Barak will make too many

concessions to Arafat. For Arafat, the Israeli election campaign poses an additional dilemma, a senior Pales-

tinian officials said. If the Palestinians postpone their statehood declaration. Netanyahu wili likely claim this as a victory for his hardline stance, while going ahead with the proclamation will help him rally support from the far right

in the elections, he said.

PKK leader says may resume armed struggle Italian premier declares Ocalan case 'closed'

ROME (AP) - Italy's premier on Monday pronounced the tangled case of Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan closed and said he has no idea where

the guerrilla chieftain has gone. But Turkey, where Ocalan is wanted as a terrorist, refused to believe it and sharply criticised Italy for letting him slip away.

"It is not possible for the Italians not

to know where he went." Turkish For-

eign Minister Ismail Cem told NTV television, Ocalan left Rome in a private plane Saturday after two months waiting in vain for political asylum. The Kurdish leader had been looking for a European base, saying he wanted to turn his guerrilla movement into a peaceful, politi-

"I was convinced that a unilazeral cease-fire could have become definate he said in an open letter publication Monday in Italian newspapers. strongly fear that after this failu

courage, above all on the part of the European Union, that there is no alternative to returning to war."

Ocalan's destination was secret. Estonia, Ukraine, Belarus and South Africa, all mentioned as possible havens for Ocalan, all denied knowingly admitting him.

Libya is among the other countries

rumoured as possibilities. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov told reporters in Russia that secret services there were looking into allegations that Ocalan might have travelled via Moscow to South Africa or Libya — but haven't found any proof yet.

Turkey's Premier Bulent Ecevit claimed that Ocalan had landed in an airport outside Moscow, Turkey's Anatolia news agency reported.

Russian authorities would expel him if he were found, Ecevit was quoted as saying after meeting with Russian Ambassador Alexander Lebedev.

Ecevit said the ambassador told him Ocalan could have entered Russia with a false passport.

"I don't know where Ocalan is, and I don't care," D'Alema said Monday. "The case is closed."

Ocalan leads the Kurdish Labour Party, or PKK, which has been fighting for Kurdish autonomy in southeastern Turkey for 14 years. The conflict has killed about 37,000 people.

Turkey pressed Italy hard to extradite Ocalan, who is on trial in absentia on capital charges. But Italy refused, citing a ban on extraditing suspects to countries where they face the death

Ocalan came to Italy on Nov. 12 hoping to muster Europe-wide support for a negotiated settlement to the Kurdish conflict. But he failed, in part because Turkey said it would never negotiate

with him Things were also complicated by the fact that Ocalan is wanted in Germany.

Germany, fearing unrest in its large immigrant population, tried to steer

clear of the affair. In a letter to D'Alema. Oculan said he hopes to return to Europe someday. at a time when the conditions are matured enough to end this struggle

with a just and lasting peace." D'Alema released the letter at a

briefing Monday. "Leaving Rome is not a step backwards," it said. "On the contrary, it is taken to create the opportunity for a future initiative on the political solution

to the Kurdish issue." The Ocalan affair soured relations between Italy and Turkey, where an unofficial boycott on Italian goods has

been in place. "The question is how long it will take the man on the street to buy made-in-Italy goods." the Italian ambassador in Turkey, Massimiliano Bandini, said in Ankara, "But I believe they'll do so

supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Monday culled on conservatives and moderates to end a bitter row over the killings of dissidents.

Khamenei's call for calm came amid public concern over a new wave of killings in Tehran which did not appear to be political in nature.

The row and the new killings have created an atmosphere of uncertainty among Tehran residents and featured strongly in newspapers as Iran prepares to mark the 20th anniversary of its Islamic revolution next month.

"Our dear and pious nation must... stand hand in hand behind our committed officials and not allow their unity to be breached." Khamenei told worshippers at mass prayers marking the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

"Those who would like to serve their short-term interests by making waves in this calm ocean and causing disturbances should know that they will gain

nothing from this," Khamenei told worshippers in a sermon carried by Tehran Radio.

The dissidents murders and revelations that death squads. including agents from the conservative-run intelligence ministry, were involved have provoked an open row between moderates backing President Mohammad Khatami and his

conservative opponents. The row has also led to an attack by Islamists who prevented a senior pro-Khatami cleric from delivering a Friday prayer sermon in the central city of Isfahan.

Moderates have demanded a purge of the intelligence ministry and suggested that hardliners carried out the murders of dissidents to destabilise Khatami's reformist govern-

Conservatives have denied the charges. Some hardliners have appeared on state television and accused Khatami's backers of involvement in the killings, in which two outspoliberal writers died. Another writer died under mysterious circumstances and a fourth is presumed dead after going

A committee set up by Khatami to probe the killings urged an end to the recriminations and said late on Sunday that none of Iran's mainstream factions were behind the mur-

"The decisions of those who organised and carried out the murders were taken in their own circles, and in depth investigations show that no political groupings or factions had any involvement in these acts," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted the state committee as

saying in a statement. Khamenei urged calm at Friday prayers, but he also called on clerics not to raise "divisive issues" in sermons.

He was referring to the Isfahan incident in which stonethrowing hardline activists stopped a sermon by Ayatollah

Jalaluddin Taheri, the only bigcity cleric who openly backs Khatami's liberal political and social reforms.

Meanwhile, there was wide concern among Tehran residents after more gruesome murders in which a prominent elderly engineer and his wife. and the wife of a prize-winning translator were killed at their homes by unknown intruders. Newspapers have given wide

coverage to the murders, in which no suspects have been arrested, and the earlier killing of a prominent physician who lived in the same high-security Tehran district where Khatami's residence is located.

Newspapers also reported that Reza Alijani, editor of the liberal Islamist monthly Iran-e Farda, had received death threats by unknown telephone callers who claimed to be from a little-known hardline group which has hailed the dissidents' killing and voiced similar threats against Khatami.



'EID IN IRAQ: Iraqi women on Monday visit the grave of a relative at a Baghdad cemetery during the 'Eid Al Fitr festival, ending the fasting month of Ramadan. Muslims mark the end of the Ramadan by praying near the tombs of relatives and friends (AFP photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli police, Arab youths clash

TIRA (AFP) — Israeli police clashed with Arab Israeli youths overnight, leaving 12 persons injured in the town of Tira, police officials said on Monday. The violence erupted when two van loads of police entered the town to arrest suspected car thieves. they said. Dozens of youths, gathered for the start of the 'Eid Al Fitr holiday marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. threw stones at the policemen. Six policemen and six demonstrators were hurt in the melee, which ended when police reinforcements arrived and local officials intervened to calm the protesters, police said. Tira lies about 25 kilometres northeast of Tel Aviv in a region where many Arab Israelis live.

Netanyahu says no joint meeting set

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Benvamin Netanyahu said on Monday no meeting between Israeli, Palestinian, and U.S. officials had been scheduled, despite Palestinian announcements talks would be held next month. Asked whether trilateral talks on reviving stalled Middle East peace efforts had been set. Netanyahu told reporters: "There was some talk about it, not with me, but some talk, peripheral talk. Nothing has been concluded on that matter." On Sunday, chief Palestinian negotiator Sueb Erekat said senior Israeli and Palestinian officials would meet in Washington in February with U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross to try to restart peace efforts frozen by Israel.

Rewards for bad driving in UAE

DUBAI (AFP) - Police stopping bad drivers in Dubai will reward them with sweets and greeting cards Monday and Tuesday during the 'Eid Al Fitr feast marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. The authorities announced the "friendly tokens" as part of the traditional leniency during the holidays. "Many motorists come to Dubai and the northern emirates from Gulf Cooperation Council countries. They don't know the roads well and may commit traffic offences." a traffic department official told Monday's Gulf News.

All Arab issues should be on agenda — Syria

DAMASCUS (AFP) - An official Syrian newspaper called Monday for Arab ministers to conduct an overall examination of the problems of the Arab World when they meet in Cairo on Jan. 24. The party daily Al Baath said it is important that the meeting should be "of a quality to face up to the challenges." The participants "need to have a joint vision, so that the Arab Nation is not split, and to adopt practical steps to make Arab action more effective," the paper said. "The Arab Nation is currently confronted with great dangers, of which Israel remains the permanent one, but other sources of peril have shown that they interconnect with the aggressive Israeli policy," it said, in a clear allusion to December's U.S.-British air raids against Iraq.

Russians say West trained Iranian nuclear specialists

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Russian FSB, the former KGB, accused Western nations Monday in the press of having made significant transfers of technology to

"The leaders of the nuclear industry and the Iranian missile programmes were trained at the best American.

Canadian, French and German universities and Iranian firms are equipped with Western material which under certain conditions permits them to organise missile production," the FSB chief press officer General Alexander Zdanovich

said in the daily Sevodnia. The statement from a rep-

security establishment, were a response to renewed accusations from Washington that Russia is supplying sensitive technology to Tehran.

Russia has denied this. saying it has acted in accordance with international

The FSB official men-

tioned equipment supplied by the German firm Bolenz and Schafer, bought by Iran in 1996 and which he said could be used to make ballistic missiles and the

engines for them. He also said Iran has "electroerosion" equipment supplied by the Swiss firms Roboform. Robofill and

AGIE, permitting the manufacture of parts for liquidfuel-powered engines.

Zdanovich said Japanese firms had also supplied equipment while most of the computer programmes used in Iran were made in the United States.

slapped economic sanctions in July on seven Russian institutes and companies accused of links with Iran, and on Tuesday announced more sanctions against three Moscow research institutes. The United States also threatened to cancel some space cooperation projects

with Moscow.

Hamas leader predicts collapse of Israel in 2026

CAIRO (AFP) — Israel will collapse in the year 2026, a Palestinian Islamist predicted in newspaper article published Monday.

"With the will of God,

our [Israeli] enemy will disappear in three decades," the founder of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, wrote in the London-based Arabic weekly Al Wasat. "I believe there are only 27 years left before Israel comes to an

He said he had reached this conclusion thanks to his understanding of verses in the Koran dealing with the Jewish com-

Yassin admitted that cooperation security between the Palestinian National Authority, Israel and the United States following the October Wye

"thwarted a number of Hamas against Israel.

Hamas, which opposes the peace deal with Israel, has been responsible for most anti-Israeli attacks in recent years.

Yassin said he had obtained large scale financial and moral support" from several Arab and African countries he visited during a trip abroad last year. He gave no further details.

Elsewhere in his article he attacked the Islamist Taleban regime in Afghanistan.

He said their decision not to allow women to study was the result either of "ignorance" or of the influence of "an outside party which wants to distort the image of Islam." He did not elaborate.

Israel urges EU to include it in scientific programme

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel October but froze its implemenappealed to European Union (EU) members on Monday not to link its inclusion in the latest EU research and development programme to its peacemaking with the Palestinians.

Israeli Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said the EU had been blocking the "timely signature" of the Fifth Framework Programme over progress in the peace process. He warned such a move could adversely affect Israeli-Euro-

EU officials have been at odds over whether to exclude Israel from the scientific research and development programme to sanction it over the peacemaking deadlock with the Palestinians.

Israel signed a land-for-security deal with the Palestinians in

May are another obstacle to reviving peace moves. The EU is expected to start issuing tenders for the R&D programme in February. Israel took

nation in December, citing

alleged Palestinian violations.

Israeli elections scheduled for

under the last such programme. "I believe that the linkage of technological cooperation to a political agenda is doomed to failure, all the more so, when Israel faces internal elections," Sharansky wrote in a letter sent

"It is liable to taint the Fifth Framework Programme as politically oriented and may bear negative influence on the

entire Israeli-European relation-

to European ambassadors in

and economic levels," the letter. a copy of which was obtained by Reuters, said. Under the programme the EU

ship, especially on the industrial

allots 14.96 billion euros (\$17.4 billion) for joint research projects over the next four years. Israel was the only non-Europart in more than 350 projects pean country to take part in the previous EU R&D programme.

The EU is Israel's biggest trad-Germany, which has been pushing to include Israel, said Bonn wanted to get the pro-

gramme under way. "We don't see any link between political proceedings here in Israel and these technical cooperation programmes," a German embassy spokesman in Tel Aviv told Reuters.

spokesman said Israel's participation would be desirable. But he said such a decision

has a political dimension in the context of the resumption of the peace process" and implementation of the Wye River land for security deal.

This double approach will be reviewed by the Council of Ministers" the spokestron said. The council was scheduled to meet on Jan. 24-25 in Brussels but it is uncertain whether it will render a decision on Israel's participa-

The cost to join the programme is based on a country's gross domestic product. Israel would pay some 40 million euros (\$46.4 million) annually for the next four years, EU offi-

Iraq reinforces troops in south — Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Iraq has boosted troops, including the elite Republican Guards. threats." its military deployment in the south of the special units and missile launchers. Sheikh country but so far without posing a danger to Salem said, quoted by the official news neighbouring Kuwait, the emirate's defence minister said Monday.

who is also deputy prime minister, said Kuwait must be ready for "all possibilities and had violated Kuwaiti airspace.

agency KUNA.

The Iraqi deployment "does not constitute Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, danger at the time being," said the defence minister, who also denied that Iraqi warplanes

Kuwait is not responsible for footing the bill of any Western military build-up in the region. "except for hospitality necessities," the defence minister added.

He also said the emirate had 'fits own methods" for dealing with any influx of Iraqi refugees in case of renewed military strikes. But he said Kuwait had "reinforced its self following last month's Desert Fox air and mis-In southern Iraq, Baghdad has reinforced its defensive capabilities to deter any possible sile attacks by the United States and Britain.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 4773111-19 PROGRAMME TWO

Į	
Į	12:00Leo The Lion'
	01:00French Cartoon
	01:30 Feature Film - "Just perfect"
ļ	15:00The American Chat Show
	15:45Circus
	16:15Vid Kids
Į	16:45French Film
I	18:15Omar Ben Abdul Aziz
I	19:00Le Journal
I	19:35Comedy - Step by Step
	20:00What Would You Do?
Ì	20:30Our Mutual Friend
١	21:30 Mini Series "Playing the
i	Field" Ep.3
i	22:00News in English
ļ	22:20 Feature film - "Marked

PRAYER TIMES

for Death"

05:10	Faji Sunrise) Dub: Dhub
06:31	Sunrise) Duh:
11:46	Dhuh
14:37	'Asr
17:01	Maghrel
17:01 18:22	

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church **Sweifieh**, TeL 5920740 Assemblies of God Church Tel. 4632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 4624590 Terra Sancta Church Tel. 4622366

Anglican Church

4624853/4624811. St. Afrem Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 4771751. Amman International Church Tel. 5865897 German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 5688404

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 5811295 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 4654932 St. John the Baptist at De la Salle College Tel. 5661757 Church of the Ammunciation **Tel.** 4637440 Greek Orthodox Church Tel. 4646138 Church of Presentation, Swei-

fieh Tel. 5920146 The Uniate Catholic Church Tel. 4624757 English-Language The Catholic Parish Tel. 4614190

Evangelical Free Church Tel. The Baptist Church Tel. 4628052 The Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 4771331 The American Orthodox

WEATHER

Church Tel. 4775261

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology It will be cold, cloudy and rainy

with snow expected to fall over Ajloun and Sharah mountain. Winds westerly moderate to active. In Agaba, it will be cold and rainy. Winds northerly moderate to active and seas rough.

..11/19 Agaba04/12 Deserts . Jordan Valley, 10/18

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11, Aqaba 21 Humidity readings: Amman 93 per cent. Aqaba 50 per cent.

Following are the temperatures expected today in the following

Ajloun	02/10
Jerash	03/12
Um Qays	02/11
Madaba	03/09
Petra	02/13
Dead Sea	09/19

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS NIGHT DUTY

Dr. Yousef Faqih Dr. Ghazi Abu Shikhah....4752405

Dr. Mukhles Halaseh... _5519220 Dr. Mohammad Lubbadeh 5167914

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Firas Pharmacy5661912 Al Salam Pharmacy 4636730 Mayadah Pharmacy5537004 Ruku Al Dawa Pharmacy 5536169

Dr. Issam Salih... ... (02)246858 Fou'ad Pharmacy (02)275360

Dr. Issa Omari.....(09)901266

EMERGENCIES

Palestine Pharmacy..(09)983562

Food Control Centre4637111
Civil Defence Department 5661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue
4630341
Civil Defence Emergency199
Rescue Police 192, 4621111, 4637777
Fire Brigade4617101
Blood Bank 4775121
Highway Police5343402
Traffic Police4896390
Public Security Dept4630321
Hotel Complaints5605800
Price Complaints5661176
Water & Sewerage Complaints 4897467
Amman Municipality Complaints
4787111
Telephone Information (directory

assistance). Overseas Calls ..0132 Central Amenan Telephone Repairs .4623101 Abdali Tel, Repairs..... ..5661101 Jordan Television4773111 Radio Jordan Water Authority . _5680100 J. Electricity Authority ...5815615 Electric Power Co......4636381 RJ Flight Information...44-53200 Queen Alia Intl. Airport __44-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery .5921199 The Islamic, Abdli5666131/7 Hussein Medical Centre...5856856 Luzmila4630195 Khalidi Maternity......4644281/6 Akileh Maternity......4642441/2 Jahal Amman Maternity....4642362 Malhas, J. Amman.4636140 Palestine. Shmeisani ... _5607071 Shmeisani Hospital 5607431 Jordan Hospital5607550 University Hospital5353444 Al-Muasher Hospital .5667227/9 Al-Ahli, Abdali5664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajreen 4777101/3 Al-Bashir.... .4775111/26 Army, Marka4891611/15 Oneen Alia Hospital 5157100 Amal Hospital5607155

Al Amal Cancer Centre ..5353000

Zarqa Govt. Hospital .(09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital... (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital(09)986731 Al Hikma Modern Hospital(09)990990

Princess Basma Hospital .(02)275555 Catholic Hospital Roman ..(02)272275 Nafees Hospital ..(02)7101372, (02)7103101 Sisters Hospital ..(02)7102831, (02)7102011 Speciality Hospital(02)7103100

AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)3040111

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEENALIA** AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel, (44)53200-5, where it should always be verified. Information on other flights can be supplied on phone 44 (52700). Information on Royal Wings flights can be supplied on phone 4875201-5

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights 07:15Sanaa (RJ) .Damascus (RJ) Jeddah (RJ) 09:50 ..Tehran (RJ) 10:05Muscat, Dubai (RJ) Doha. Bahrain (RJ) 10:15 16:20 .Cairo (RJ) 17:30London, Frankfurt (RJ) 18:15Chicago. Shannon (Rf) ...Beirut (RJ) 23:10 Other Flights 12:30 .Aden (IY)

14:33	
18:00	Dubai, Damascus (EK)
18:40	Beirut (ME)
18:45	Kiev (6U)
19:05	
20:25	Tel Aviv (LY)
20540	Cario (MS)
<u>22:25</u>	_London, Damascus (BA)
23:3 5	Amsterdam (KL)
23:55	Lamaca(CY)
00:55	Bucharest (RO)
02:00	Rome (AZ)
	•

Royal Wings (RW) Flights 09:30 Aqaba (arriving at QAIA) 11:10...Aqaba (arriving at Marka Airport) (RW)

Airport) (RW)

16:00...Aqaba (arriving at Marka 18:45 Tel Aviv (arriving at QAIA)

22:50 Aqaba (arriving at Marka Airport) (RW)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights 08:25 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 11:05 Vienna, Frankfunt _ Brussels, Paris (RJ) 12:00Geneva, Madrid (RJ) ...London (RJ) Cairo (RJ)

30.73 mmmm	*****TABLESCO (1014
21:00Abu	Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
Other Flights	
77:10	Frankfurt (LH)
13:30	Aden (IY)
15:35	Istanbul (TK)
19:00	Duhai (EK)
19-40	Kiev (6U)
	Beirut (ME)
	Tel Aviv (LY)
21-10 21-10	Cairo (MS)
4147V	Canto (Mass)
W.35	Amsterdam (KL)

19:35

20:45

01:55

93:00

Royal Wings (RW) Flights 07:00 Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW) 08:30 Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW) 16:30 Tel Aviv (from Marka Air-PORT (RW)

DEPARTURES

Beirut (RJ)

Jeddah (RJ)

Domescus (RI)

Bucharest (RO)

_Rome (AZ)

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and an very have to de The and harvestir the lamily owns a hand the letty which marinaried brothe Mainer works at the p.p.atment. " Gublan said th her clan are 20:30 ... Aqaba (from QAIA) (ROV)

Jordan celebrates 'Eid Al Fitr



AMMAN (Petra) - Jordan yesterday joined the rest of the Islamic World in celebrating the Eid Al Fitr holiday bringing to an end of the Holy Month of Ramadan and marking the occasion with prayers in mosques around the Kingdom.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, attended morning prayers at the King Abdullah Mosque in Amman with Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh, Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Zeid Rifai and Abdul Hadi Majali, and

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DEPARTIRES

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PRINCESS AISHA VISITS SOS VILLAGE: HRH

Princess Aisha deputises for Her Majesty Queen Noor during a visit Monday to children at the SOS village at Tabarbour, where she distributed gifts to the children on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr Feast (Petra photo)

dozens of army and security services chiefs who joined

Jordanian worshippers, Imam Ahmad Helayel called on Muslims to end their differences and unite their efforts to serve the nation, noting that the feast should prompt Muslims to sacrifice, exercise solidarity and extend help to the unfortunate and the poor.

He also voiced the wor-shippers thanks to God for the recovery of His Majesty King Hussein who is due to return to Amman today after a six-month stay in the United States where he under-

went chemotherapy for a non-Hodgkins lymphoma. After the prayer service, Prince Hassan met worshippers who expressed good wishes to him on the occa-

sion of 'Eid Al Fitr.

Prince Hassan later visited the tombs of his grandfather, the late King Abdullah, founder of the Kingdom, and his father, the late King Talal. He also visited the tomb of the late Queen Mother, Queen Zein, At the tombs, he recited verses from the Holy Koran and laid wreathes on the tombs.

PRINCE HASSAN GREETS HRH Crown Prince Hassan meets with publie and private sector representatives Raghadan Palace, Here, be shakes the hand of Sima Bahous, director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation

by other members of the Royal family,

photor

The Regent met later at Raghadan Palace with representatives of public and private institutions, senior officials and chief military and security services personnel as well as heads of diplomatic missions, tribal chiefs and religious leaders who expressed their best wishes on the occasion.

All government departments and public institutions will remain closed until Thursday morning in observance of the 'Eld Al Fitr







DIFFICULT CHOICES: Shoppers rush to capitalise on 'Eid Al Fitr bargains in downtown Amman and find 'just the right thing' for the holidays (Photos by Yousel Allan)

Rain to keep falling on thirsty Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) -- Rain at last came to Jordan after a long spell of drought that earlier this week prompted government announce strict measures to deal with an emergency water shortage.

According to the Department of Meteorology, more rainfall is expected today and may continue through Wednesday.

A department official told the Jordan Times that light snow is expected to fall Tuesday on the high mountains of Ajloun in the north and the Sharah mountains in the south near Petra.

He said the daytime temperatures Tuesday will creep towards a high of 10 degrees Celsius, dropping to a low of five degrees at night. Cool temperatures will be accompanied by strong gusts of wind. Sources at the Ministries

replenish the aquifers and the reservoirs, now depleted to less than half their capacity. According to water ministry statistics, the King Talal Dam, the largest in the country with a 72 million cubic metre (mcm) capacity held 32 mcm

of Agriculture and Water

expressed hope that the

rain will mark the start of

the actual winter season to

before the past two days' rainfall. Zeglab dam was measured at 1.2 mcm out of a capacity of 3.5 mcm. Wadi Araba Dam 6 mcm out of 16 mem. The Wadi Shueib, Kafrain and desert dams have been reported to be nearly empty.

Minister of Agriculture Mijhem Khreisha said after a Cabinet session Saturday that the government intends to establish a fund to ensure JDI2 million in interest-free loans

to livestock breeders in order to help them buy barley and grain at reduced prices.

He said state-grazing reserves will be open to the public, while the Ministries of Water and Irrigation and Agriculture will provide water for livestock from desert wells. The water ministry will continue to ration water

supplies.

The government also announced that water pumped for agricultural use will be reduced by 50 per cent in the Southern Ghor, 20 per cent in the Northern Ghor and 10 per cent in the the Central Ghor as part of the rationing system.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation plans to give priority to potable water, with a 10 mem increase in the amount of water pumped to Amman

from the Yarmouk River and Lake Tiberias. The two water sources supply the country with 60 to 80 mem annually.

The Water Authority will start storing water from the Yarmouk River in the Karameh Dam which has a 19 mem capacity.

Last October the government solicited around 50 local, Arab and foreign firms to pre-qualify for a \$730 million build-ownoperate water extraction system to draw water from the Disi aquifer in the south and pump it to the capital. The project requires the construction of a 325-kilometre pipeline to Amman. It is expected that the Disi can supply the capital with

100 mem annually by the

year 2005.

Businessmen encourage agricultural investment in Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Sudan. al sector.

Bakkour said Sudan's fertile soil and abundant water supplies should make the country attractive to agricul-

Addressing a meeting held at the Jordanian Businessmen Association (JBA) in Amman. Bakkour said that Jordan, like other Arab countries, faces a growing demand for food production in view of the growing poparable land and water

Director General of the Arab Organisation for Agricultur-Development (AOAD) Yahya Bakkour has called on Jordanian investors and the business community to nomic integration. invest in Sudan's agricultur-

tural investments.

agricultural investment in ment.

He said the agreement was a manifestation of common Arab action and an exemplary step towards inter-Arab cooperation and eco-

Bakkour said that the AOAD will immediately embark on the preparation of a plan to help the Jordanian-Sudanese agreement to be implemented successful-

Bakkour said some proiects that were started earlier in Sudan failed to succeed because they had no scientific basis, but the majority of projects achieved excellent results. JBA Chairman Hamdi

Tabbaa echoed Bakkour's call on investors to seriously Sudan's fertile soil, huge consider investing in water supplies and labour Sudan's agricultural sector. force should be attractive to He said the two sides have investors, said formed a committee to Bakkour, who was com- explain to investors procementing on the recent con- dures for starting investment clusion of a Jordanian- within the framework of the Sudanese agreement on Jordanian-Sudanese agree-

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILM

"L.A. Confidential" at Books@Cafe. Jabal Amman at 8:30 p.m. (Tel.: 4650457).

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of ceramics, sculpture, and abstract (plastic) art by Jordanian, Iraqi, Syrian, Lebanese, and Sudanese artists at Hammourabi Art Gallery, Gardens Street (Tel. 5536098), until Jan. 25.

artists at Orfali Art Gallery, Um Uthaina (Tel. 5526932), until Feb. 1.

 The Tenth Anniversary Exhibition of Contemporary Arab Artists at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh (Tel. 4643251/2), until Jan. 28.

Life proves hard under the tent

The dwindling ranks of Jordan's bedouins share mixed views about urban lifestyles

By Hind-Lara Mango

AMMAN — For Um Gublan and her three daughters, all of whom hail from the Abbadi clan, one of lordan's largest tribes, herding livestock and farming is their only way of life, their only source of

From April till November, they reside under a black goat-hair tent on land which they rent for JD100 a year in the affluent heart of Deir Ghbar, near Abdoun.

These lands, once main grazing pastures for many shepherds, have developed into affluent urban neighbourhoods over the last decade under a rapid urbanisation process that has outpaced natural development of such sites, leaving behind or squeezing out many sea-sonal tent dwellers, sociologists

Unplanned urbanisation, specifically in the western parts of the capital, has replaced vast areas of fertile farmland with white-stone buildings and posh villas, they add. But for many like Um Gublan. life continues to follow the same traditional patterns despite occa-

sional complaints.
"Life is too hard under the tent." said Um Gublan's 20-year-old daughter Nawal as she sat sipping sweet tea on a crispy cold winter

"My brothers have office jobs since they have grown disenchanted with our traditional way of life. she says. "So, my mother, sister and myself have to do the planting.

herding and harvesting The family owns a house in the industrial city which is occupied by one married brother: The other brother works at the Public Securi-

ty Department. Um Gublan said that more members of her clan are opting for per-

manent settlement instead of putting up with the hassles of having to cope without running water.

a sewage network and electricity.
"This life is too tough, if we could afford an alternative we would settle, said the family matriarch, who still dons the flowing traditional black robe.

'This life is too tough, if we could afford an alternative we would settle' - Um Gublan

She said her immediate family could barely make ends meet as fodder had become too expensive. They now rely on the money they make from selling yoghurt and vegetables to survive.

Some sociologists and anthropologists say such an odd mix of affluent villas juxtaposed with tents is a consequence of Jordan's accelerated urbanisation process.

"Urbanisation in Jordan did not take the same natural course followed in most big Arab cities," said anthropologist Lamia Ra'i, who for years has studied the lifestyle of the bedouins.

"Some areas in Jordan did not undergo the natural urbanisation process witnessed by other Arab capitals where small socio-economic urban units (Harat) developed into cities. Abdoun, Deir Ghbar and Khalda are some examples of that," Ra'i told the Jordan

Other anthropologists attribute this phenomenon to land-endowed bedouins who sold what were once remote plots of land in Western Amman to Jordanians who accrued wealth during the 1970s oil boom. These Jordanians, working in handsomely-paid jobs in the Gulf, sent home hundreds of thousands of dinars to buy land and build villas and flats, fuelling a construc-

tion boom. As the land was no longer used agricultural purposes, the work to sustain their way of life; his wife and children milk 70 heads of livestock from April through

'We gather around 20 kilos of milk every day during the milking season," grins Abu Mohammad, showing off uneven brown teeth through his capricious smile. The family also processes and

sells white cheese. Herding, their main source of income, is carried out simultane-

ously and extends into November. In April. Abu Mohammad rents a dunum (1,000 square metres) of

Opposing views

bedouins were forced to dismiss farmhands and other labourers who made the land productive. personally believe the

bedouins we see today in urban areas are those who either worked for wealthy bedouins, or are the poorer members of the tribe who were marginalised and found themselves jobless as a consequence of the selling of land," said anthropologist Salwa Amad.

Amad added that the "social polarisation" which has been taking place in Jordan for the past 40 years has marginalised rural and bedouin communities who originally owned or worked on such agricultural land.

Actually, it is not the Bedouins

A few kilometres up the road from Um Gublan, Abu Mohammad American embassy.

who are an oddity but rather the new villas which were built at a fast pace in these areas," explains

lives in a similar tent in Wadi Abdoun near the fortress-like All 12 members of his family

land for JD10 per month and plants it with eucumber, okra. squash, and zuechini that is sold by his sons along the main roads in surround-

ing areas. And unlike Um Gublan, he says he is satisfied with his lifestyle. "I never dream of owning a villa like that one across the street," said Abu Mohammad pointing a workcalloused finger in the direction of

"We have been given roles in our lives. If we did not plant and milk sheep and everybody wanted to be rich, then how would people survive?" says his wife, Um Moham-

a nearby four-storey villa.

Ra'i said Abu Mohammad and Um Gublan are examples of bedouin families that have become semi-urbanised, relying on live-stock and farming. If this life style does not suit them, they automatically settle but continue farming.

"A bedouin keeps to this lifestyle as long as it sustains him. He forms an urban unit rotating among the tent, house and land." Ra'i said in an interview.

"And they continue to live in tents for the sake of their livestock," she says.

"But there is a link between the continuity of the bedouin lifestyle and seasonal fluctuations of income. Maintaining a livestock economy guarantees economic subsistence."

'I never dream of owning a villa like that one across the street' — Abu

Mohammad

Sociologist Sabri Rubeihat believes that the legacy of bedouin traditions continues with most tribesmen who settle in homes.

"We still retain some elements of Bedouin life in our subconscious," he says. "On the occasion of death or mar-

riage you see a tent erected in the back yard of a grand villa to receive guests," he reminds. Bedouins, once a majority, have become a minority among Jordani-

ans as most have melted into society through rapid urbanisation and education. However, tribes and their traditions remain deeply entrenched in Jordanian society.

Abu Mohammad and his wife relocate during the winter to Zarqa and the drier eastern desert terrain for the sake of his livestock and leave their 12-year-old daughter Iman to look after their children in their house in Wadi Abdoun. Four of his children still go to school, but one of his sons, Abdul-

lah, wants to follow the footsteps of his father. "I want to be just like my father and work with him when I finish

school," he says. His eldest brother is a soldier while the second eldest has dropped out of school.

Rubeihat feels such groups of tent dwellers still provide an invaluable service to urban society by providing fresh vegetables,

eggs, cheese and meat. Most seasonal tent residents say inhabitants of nearby villas are not always kind to them.

"They are bothered when we set up camp near their villas so they telephone the authorities who come and order me to move on," says Abu Abed, another farmer.

"Sometimes I listen and sometimes I don't."

The small yet robust Um Gublan says she has no problems with her neighbours and in fact has found camaraderie in trade and in passing on traditions.

"I visit them and teach them how to make jameed (dried yoghurt used particularly in mansaf) and they buy my vegetables and home-made bread," she proudly says. One of her neighbours, who owns

a two-storey building in Deir Ghbar says she does not mind having bedouins as neighbours "as long as they stop their goats from eating my trees and shrubs."

Others say these remaining tent dwellers will eventually fizzle out as more streets are opened and new

houses spring up.

"I am seeing fewer and fewer tents in the wadis compared to only a few years back," said another resident. "Soon, their days will be

UNESCO sponsoring conference on Internet paedophilia

pornography increasingly accessible on the Internet, gathering at UNESCO for the first major international conference on the issue hope to hammer out concrete ways

Some 250 participants from 40 countries as well as representatives of 75 nongovernmental organisations began meeting Monday to discuss ways to improve training for police officers. judges and doctors handling cases of child sex

They will call for the creation of international hot lines and an aggressive campaign to educate children and their parents about the dangers of paedophilia on the Internet.

Experts will examine the socio-economic conditions that allow paedophilia and child prostitution to thrive worldwide, especially in developing nations, as well as the international legal framework necessary to

dophiles to access illicit materials, but it also has made it easier for police to track them down, experts

say. All Internet users leave a record of their visit on the host site and on their own computer. Experts say Internet Access Providers must be pressured to better screen sites to which they provide access.

InterpoL's Agnes Fournier-Saint Maur. who heads the international police organisation's special commission on crimes against minors, said it was virtually impossible to determine the number of Web sites providing materials for adults who prey on children or to know how many paedophiles access the Internet.

Fournier-Saint Maur said Interpol's figures are based the material seized, which in the United States alone. included 500.000 online photos showing sexual acts involving minors.

The Internet facilitates the The online revolution has duplication and recycling

child's photo appears online, it is extremely difficult to remove it. Fournier-Saint Maur said at a news conference last week.

Daniel Kahn, a French lawyer and expert on Internet law, said many Web sites provide materials that are legal in the countries where they are created _ places that also often lack laws protecting children against kidnapping for sexual exploitation.

India. Nepal and many developing nations, includ-ing sub-Saharan African countries, were cited as where children increasingly are being exploited on screen. However, better cooperation has been noted between Western European nations and those such as Thailand and Philippines which have been notorious for lax poli-

Under, French law, both the provider of paedophilia materials and the user can be prosecuted and pun-



Spanish Judge Baltasar Garzon arrives at the House of Lord's hearing regarding Pinochet's extradition. Balthasar will listen as seven of Britain's most senior judges decide on the validity of Pinochet's claim to immunity from prosecution on charges of murder, torture and kidnap outside his native Chile (Reuters photo)

Britain's House of Lords reopens Pinochet case

They will spend several days examining the case. listening to both his supporters and detractors, each side determined not to lose

Spanish judge Baltasar Garzon, whose arrest warrant against the 83-year-old general for terrorism, torture and genocide sparked off what became a major legal and political wrangle.

The Chilean government. which claims to be the only power with the right to try Pinochet and which has lobbied for his release, will also be represented for the first

The seven Law Lords will argued that perpetrators of have to make a majority decision on whether the retired junta chief enjoys immunity from prosecution as a former head of state or whether extradition proceedings to Spain can go

A Lords ruling in which November involved only five Lords that Pinochet could face prosecution was overturned by the house after it was judges was a patron of human rights groups lobbying for the general's trial. he told BBC radio. None of the seven Lords taking part in this week's whose 1973-1990

While four of them are seen as "moderates." nobody can predict which way the judgement will fall. Amnesty International also has been given a

Lord Browne-Wilkinson.

68. participated in the earli-

chance to plead before the

crimes against humanity should be tried not just for the sake of their victims but for the good of the internacommunity as a

Amnesty International's lawyer Geoffrey Bindman said Monday that Pinochet must be made to face the consequences of his actions.

There should be no hiding place and no escape for anybody who has been revealed that one of the responsible for torture, kidnapping and murder on the Annesty International, the scale which is alleged against General Pinochet.

> Pinochet himself, under were murdered, told his family and close friends that he was resigned to dying in Britain if he loses his bid to return home, the press here

"I am resigned to my fate. Even if that means dying here. This is part of my sacrifice to the Fatherland." the Sunday Telegraph quoted

PARIS (AP) — Crime jumped 4.6 per cent in Paris in 1998, with a huge rise in thefts by pickpockets, especially during the World Cup, the city police department announced Monday. The number of violent crimes fell significantly, with a drop of 18 per cent in the number of armed robberies. The number of homicides was the second lowest in 25 years, with 112 peo22.17g P. .111c

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Chinese mine explosion kills one, 10 missing

ern China has left one dead and six injured, with 10 miners missing, official media reported Monday. The Xinhua news agency said the blast occurred Monday at 12:45 a.m. (1700 GMT Sunday) at the Magu mine outside of Shenyang, the capital of Liaoning province. Authorities are investigating the cause of the accident, it said. Safety precautions are notoriously poor in China's mining industry, which sees an average of 10,000 workers die each year.

yields military weapon haul

BELIING (AFP) — A crackdown by Chinese customs in troubled Xinjiang province has yielded an attempt to smuggle military weapons and ammunition from Kazakhstan, Xinhua reported Monday. The official news agency said customs officers in Xinjiang handled more than 700 smuggling cases and confiscated goods worth 30 million yuan (\$3.6 million) in 1998. Among the cases was the largest involving the discovery of military weapons being smuggled into China. Xinhua said. The six pistols, a submachine gun and 2,000 rounds of ammunition were hidden in a truck and driven from Kazakhstan through the Korgas crossing into northwestern China last April. Korgas is close to the town of Gulja (Yining in Chinese) where riots broke out in February 1997 over the creation of an independent Islamic state in Xinjiang. Official accounts said 10 people were killed and another 132 injured when the protest against rule by Beijing descended into a riot, but a foreign-based Uighur group put the number of dead at more than 100. In November, officials in the town said terrorists were still armed from abroad and posters called on separatists to hand over their arms. Xinjiang remains under tight con-

Court ruling awaited on arrest of Zimbabwean defence minister judge cannot direct us. We

HARARE (AFP) — An Defence Minister Moven editor spent his seventh day in military detention Secretary Job Whabira and Monday as Zimbabwe a military police major ruling on an application to Chavunduka was not have the defence minister released. arrested for defying a court order last week to free the journalist.

Thursday ignored a high court order for the release of Standard editor Mark Chavunduka, who was detained last Tuesday after running a story about an alleged military coup plot and the arrest of 23 army officers.

Lawyers acting on behalf of the paper Friday made Whabira refused to carry an urgent application to the high court to jail Thursday, saying: "The cation.

Mahachi.

A judge then set the to another three days in detention." according to Clive Wilson, the paper's managing director.

Chavunduka, who is being held at a military barracks in Harare, has been denied access to his lawyers and family.

Defence Secretary

out the High Court order

Defence will move at our own pace. Any civilian who meddles in military matters is subanxiously awaited a court involved in the arrest if ject to military law. On Jan. 10 the Standard

reported Zimbabwean military offihearing for Monday at cers had been arrested for 4:00 p.m. (1600 GMT), inciting colleagues in the The defence ministry last "in effect sentencing Mark army to topple President Robert Mugabe. The paper cited the harsh

economic conditions in the country and Zimbabwe's intervention in the DRC's civil war in support of President Laurent Kabila as the sources of discontent that led to the alleged

Mahachi dismissed the story as a complete fabriBritain's highest court Monday was beginning a fresh hearing to decide whether former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet should be extradited to

Spain to face prosecution for crimes against humanity. Seven judges from the House of Lords were to open proceedings at 11.00 a.m. local time (1100 GMT).

out in this historic process.

was to attend the hearings.

The group has continually him as saying.

Japan and France share concern over N. Korea first intelligence satellites in 2002, setting aside \$97 million for development in

> Pyongyang's launch, first believed to be a ballistic missile test, deeply embarrassed Japan because its military failed to spot the rocket and then had to rely on U.S. and South Korean intelligence.

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan "exchange views on military and is suspected of told reporters he had noted ising factor" in the region. manufacturing a "substantial change in the The United States had defence in Asia and nuclear Europe," a defence agency climate" since North Korea been Japan's defence partweapons. spokesman said. Richard, the first French tary intentions in a ministelaunched a rocket that ner since World War II but the year to March 2000. "As of now, we haven't defence minister to visit overflew Japanese territory Japan was "widening its horizons," he said, as wit-

and France voiced concern over North Korea's milirial meeting Monday, officials said, and agreed to Asia-Europe defence talks.

Japanese defence agency Hosei director-general Norota and visiting French agreed

worked out concrete cooperation measures between the two nations," he added. Norota reportedly told the French defence chief that despite a severe food

shortage, "North Korea is seeking to modernise its

here in seven years, was quoted as saying: "We share concern over the North Korean issue. We would like to continue exchanging views in the future.

on Aug. 31 last year.

Richard, who also met with Foreign Minister launch Masahiko Komura, said he agreed with his hosts that uncertainty

Pyongyang's

nessed by its decision to

over

reconnaissance satellites following North Korea's rocket launch. Japan gave the final go-

intentions ahead in December last

The French minister later was "an important destabil- year for the launch of its Japan's opposition leader wins

overcame a sex scandal to easi-

the government, Dogged by tabloid stories. Interfax Yeltsin's persistent woes have increasing officials said.

raised questions over his fitness to govern. The Russian leader has yet to put in a day's work at the Kremlin this year and was absent for long periods last year with bronchitis, nervous exhaustion

But Yeltsin has ruled out formally ceding his presidential powers to the prime minister, who would assume Kremlin chief's health Russia's · leadership satisfactory, Interfax should Yeltsin become incapacitated.

party poll, vows tough fight ahead TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese whether the Obuchi administraopposition leader Naoto Kan ly retain his post in a Democratic Party poll Monday and vowed a tough fight with

which he denies, of an extramarital affair with a woman 20 years his junior, Kan took 180 of the valid votes against 51 for his only rival. 40-year-old Shigefumi Marsuzawa, party

Two votes were invalid in the election, held by regional representatives and parliamentary members of the largest opposition force, the Democratic

In a show of party unity after the election, 52-year-old Kan and Matsuzawa shook hands and raised them in a joint salute. Kan said his party would con-

sider a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's administration after annual company results were announced around May or June.

It would then 'become clear

tion will be able to keep the promise of positive growth," he told a news conference. Obuchi has promised 0.5 per cent economic growth in the year from April.

Kan, whose victory came on the eve of the opening of parliament, has also demanded the dissolution of the lower house for snap elections before its four-year term ends in October 2000.

He vowed to provide strong opposition to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and its new coalition partner, the Liberal Party. "We must stand against the coalition in cooperation with other opposition parties," he said.

Asked about Kan's re-election, Obuchi told reporters he wanted to "work together for the sake of the country although we are on the ruling and oppo-

John Neuffer, research fellow at the Mitsui Marine Research Institute, said Kan had been expected to win despite the sex

"Even though Kan is getting beat up over the womanising charges and is widely disliked by his rank and file, the Democrats know he's still the best thing they have going for them - he continues to rank as the most popular politician in Japan." Neuffer added.

"There is no one in the party who can come close to replacing him for the time being." The prime minister mean-

while met senior members of the LDP, Liberal Party leader Ichiro Ozawa and key ministers of the ruling two-party coalition at an inaugural monthly liaison

Obuchi reshuffled his cabinet last Thursday after forging the coalition pact and brought in the Liberal Party's ex-secretary general, Takeshi Noda, as home offairs minister. "The government will make

utmost efforts under close cooperation," the premier said after the meeting, according to Ozawa later said: "I am going

to make desperate efforts to

support this administration."

Obuchi's cabinet rose to the highest level since he came to power half a year ago. The approval rate for Obuchi's cabinet rose to 26 per

A*poll showed support for

cent in January from 25 per cent in December. Jiji Press news agency said in the nationwide poll conducted Jan. 9-12 in the run-up to the formation of the coalition. The LDP-Liberal Party cooli-

tion holds a majority with a combined 303 seats in the 500seat lower house but it falls short in the upper chamber with only 116 of the 252 seats. The coalition must now battle to pass crucial legislation dur-

ing the next parliamentary session, including a record-spending budget to boost the economy and laws to strengthen the defence relationship with the United States. Kan later vowed in a televi-

sion interview to oppose the budget, but the threat has little weight since the upper house. which the opposition parties control, cannot stop budget leg**NEWS IN BRIEF**

France honours Thai World War I hero and centenarian

BANGKOK (AFP) - A World War I hero who is the last surviving member of a Siamese force sent to France to fight with the Allies was Monday presented with France's highest award, the Legion d'Honneur. Centenarian Yod Sangrungruang was presented with the award by French ambassador to Thailand Gerard Coste at his home town of Phitsanulok, close to Bangkok. Yod Sangrungruang was part of the Royal Siamese Expeditionary Force of 1,284 men sent by the then kingdom of Siam, as Thailand was known, to fight with the Allies in France in June 1918, a few months before the end of World War I. He had joined. the artillery in 1916, and after volunteering for the expeditionary corps he served in the French army as an air mechanic, based near the southern port of Marseilles. After demobilisation, he returned to Thailand where he married and had nine children. He served as a village headman for nearly 50 years. He was awarded the honour in November as part of celebrations marking the 80th anniversary of the end of World War I. France has decided to award the chevalier grade of the Legion of Honour to all surviving World War I veterans. The Legion d'Honneur was created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte to reward sol-

ASEAN urged to field observers to Indonesian elections

MANILA (AFP) - The Philippines has proposed to Singapore that both countries send observers to the general elections in Indonesia in June, Philippine Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon said Monday. "I told Mr. Jayakumar that we could encourage ASEAN members to participate as foreign observers in Indonesia under the UNDP." said Siazon of his Singapore counterpart Syanmugam Jayakumar. Thethree countries along with Brunei. Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar. Thailand and Vietnam make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Jayakumar is this year's chairman of the revolving ASEAN standing committee. Separately, Jayakumar was told that the Philippines will send 200 election observers to Indonesia from the non-government group National Citizens Movement for Free Elections. also known as Namfrel. Siazon said. Namfrel last week completed the training of 13 Indonesian moni-tors in preparation for the June 7 elections under an arrangement with the U.N. Development Programme, the foreign department said. Indonesia, the largest nation in Southeast Asia, will have its "first real elections" and it would be a gargantuan task involving 120 million voters, Siazon said Monday.

Provincial government in India's northeast loses trust vote

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The government of a province tucked away in India's remote northeast quit after it lost a confidence vote Monday, domestic news agencies reported. Gegong Apang, chief minister of the hilly Arunachal Pradesh state bordering China, resigned after his confidence motion failed to win a single vote with 36 against. Press Trust of India reported. After making a three-hour speech. Apang, head of a regional party, walked out of the house with his 22 supporters before the vote was taken. Arunachal Pradesh is among the smallest of India's 26 states. bounded on the north by China, east by Burma and west by the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. Political leaders in Arunachal Pradesh and other small northeastern states often complain they have no say in the country's affairs. An estimated 106 tribes live in Arunachal Pradesh, speaking about 50 different tribal dialects. Another party could now be given a chance to form a government, or elections could be called in the

Crime up 4.6% in Paris in 1998

ple killed in 1998 compared to 99 the year before.

BEIJING (AFP) - A coal mine explosion in northeast-

China crackdown on smuggling

trol and news from the remote region is notoriously slow in reaching Beijing.

Defence Minister Alain Richard Yeltsin treatment to be based on medication, not surgery

MOSCOW (AFP) — Kremlin doctors advised Monday that President Boris Yeltsin should undergo a course of drugs to counteract an acute ulcer, stomach Interfax reported quoting presidential Dmitry spokesman Yakushkin. prescription issued by doctors at

the Central Clinical Hospital where Yeltsin hospitalised Sunday apparently ruled out for the time being the possibility of surgery on the ulcer. Yakushkin said that doctors, who convened Monday morning to consider how to treat Yeltsin, considered the

Following medical examinations Sunday evening, doctors said that the ulcer could be treated in two or three weeks without reported.

and pneumonia.

mutilated, were found Milosevic agreed Oct. 12 to

sive and begin talks with

Both sides, however, have

rejected U.S. proposals for

expanded self-rule for

Kosovo, With diplomacy at

a stalemate, prospects for a

full-scale resumption of

But Yugoslay officials

showed no sign of backing

down in the face of what

they consider an ethnic

Albanian threat to Serb con-

trol of the province. Ethnic

Albanians form about 90

per cent of Kosovo's 2 ma-

lion people, and many want

State-run media loyal to

Milosevic was highly criti-

cal at William Walker, U.S.

head of OSCE observers.

who was the first to con-

demn the massacre and

blame the security forces.

Several columnists in

accused Walker of siding

The ethnic Albanian daily

Koha Ditore reported

Monday it had received a

call from an alleged mem-

ber of a secret Serb organi-

sation who threatened

Walker unless he apologised

participating in a project to pro-

duce submarines. But he said

the company has the necessary

expertise if it is asked to join in.

with ethnic Albanians.

new spapers

independence.

Monday

fighting have increased.

ethnic Albanians

Kosovo's future.

Saturday in a gully outside the village, 25 kilometres

south of the provincial capi-

Serb officials said the vic-

tims were KLA guerrillas

killed in combat, although

the victims included three

women and a 12-year-old

boy. Serbs accused the KLA

of mutilating the bodies to

make it look as if a massacre

During the emergency

meeting Sunday at NATO

Belgium, ambassadors of

the 15-member alliance

"Milosevic most comply

with all his commitments to

NATO," said Secretary-

General Javier Solana, The

secretary-general said the

order that gives NATO's

military arm authority to

conduct airstrikes remains

in effect. But his statement

airstrikes last year if

Milosevic refused to call off

his offensive against ethnic

Albanian rebels fighting for

independence for Kosovo, a

Yugoslavia's main republic.

Following intense negoti-

ations with U.S. envoy

threatened

made no specific threat.

NATO

Taiwan to build submarines with U.S. assistance

condemned the atrocities.

headquarters in Brusse!

tal, Pristina.

had occurred.



Serb policemen move into position in Racak village, south of Stimlje, about 26 km south of the regional capital Pristina. Serbian police resumed their attack against ethnic Albanian guerrillas around the village where the bodies of 45 ethnic Albanians were found and who the villagers say were massacred by Serb police (Reuters photo)

OSCE calls emergency meeting on Kosovo

VIENNA (AFP) - The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe iOSCE) called an emergency meeting Monday to discuss the crisis in Kosovo after the massacre of 45 Kosovo Albanians. The OSCE's 54-member Permanent Council, due to

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ons

meet at 11:00 a.m. (1000 GMT), was expected to pass a "harsh" resolution condemning the killings, spokeswoman Melissa Fleming told AFP.

The resolution would also

reiterate OSCE demands for unimpeded access for the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) and for investigators Hague-based International Criminal Inhunal for the former

At least 45 Albanians were massacred Friday in the village of Racak in southern Kosovo. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) met

urgently Sunday denounced the massacre but did not decide to intervene mil-

A diplomatic source who asked not to be named added that discussions on the wording of the resolution to be adopted Monday were "still under negotiation," but said Russia was trying to have it toned down.

Fleming said only: "I expect it will be quite harsh." A press conference was to be held after the Permanent

Council meeting at the former imperial palace in Vienna, the Hofburg. An OSCE source said the

OSCE's executive body was unlikely to consider the withately, although it was in contact with NATO officials over the threat of NATO action against Yugosłavia. The only thing that would with

make us evacuate would be if NATO were to start bombing," said the source.

The diplomat said such a

move could be considered "if something really horrible happened to a KVM member." The OSCE was charged. under a deal struck last

October by U.S. envoy Richard Holbrooke, with deploying a 2.000-strong KVM in the troubled province to monitor compliance with U.N. resolutions. The Racal: massacre came

almost at the same time as two members of the KVM were injured by sniper fire in the troubled province — the first such incident for the OSCE mission since it began deploy-

Investigations into the mass killing at Racak are continu-

In a telephone conversation Yugoslav

OSCE's current Norwegian chairman Knut Volleback called for the ICTY to be allowed to investigate the Racak massacre, Louise Arbour, chief prosecutor of the Hague war crimes tribunal, was heading Monday for

Kosovo to try to prohe the

massacre, which was allegedly

Minister Zivadin Jovanovic,

carried out by Serbian security Up to now, no ICTY investigator has been allowed into Kosovo, where Serbian police and troops are accused of resorting to atrocities in their drive to crush separatist insur-

gents of the Kosovo Liberation In an interview Monday with the French daily Liberation, Arbour urged the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to facilitate access

status. China regards

Taiwan as a breakaway

descent from Delaware's

province.

to Racak for ICTY officials. China's growing naval power. the United Daily News said. The subs will be based on Germany's advanced diesel powered U-209 model, with the hull constructed by Electric United States by President Boat, General Dynamic Corp.'s Lee, which they saw as implying recognition of his submarine division, in the U.S.,

Monday.

Electric Boat operates a shipyard in Groton, Connecticut,

the United Daily News report-

did not specify that is where the hulls would be built. The craft will then be outlined

although the newspaper report

Serb police resume attacks

commanders to warn Belgrade

on village, NATO sends

The chief prosecutor of

the U.N. war crimes tri-

bunal, Louise Arbour,

planned to leave Monday

for Kosovo to investigate

the massacre, regardless of

whether Yugoslav authori-

Elsewhere, the U.N.

Security Council and the

Organisation for Security

and Cooperation in Europe

were planning meetings on

Col. Mike Philips, an

a sistant to the American

chief of international moni-

tors in Kosovo, said Serb

police announced early

Monday they would move

into the Racak area to con-

duct a "search" for Kosovo

Liberation Army guerrillas,

which typically means a

Phillips said small arms fire could be heard in the

area Monday morning, Serb

and ethnic Albanian sources

said heavy fighting had

Fighting in Racak also

flared Sunday when Serb

forensic experts tried to

enter the village with police

escort, despite international

monitors warning it would

Albanians, many of them

The 45 bodies of ethnic

provoke clashes.

resumed.

crackdown is underway.

ties granted permission.

NATO airstrikes.

Yugoslavia

(AP) - Heavy fighting was

reported Monday in a tense

Kosovo village where Serb

police battled ethnic

Albanian guerrillas even as

two top NATO generals

headed to Belgrade to

demand that President

Slobodan Milosevie respect

Serb and ethnic Albanian

sources in Kosovo reported

the combat in the village of

Racak, where bodies of 45

ethnic Albanians were

found over the weekend,

bringing Serbia's province

one step closer to an all-out

war and prompting interna-

The fighting subsided by

midday, local residents said.

but the area remained tense.

NATO mer Sunday to

demand that Serb-led gov-

ernment forces stop their

onslaught against the Kosovo ethnic Albanian

rebels and that Yugoslavia

allow the U.N. war crimes

tribunal to investigate the

Gen. Wesley Clark, the

alliance's commander for

Europe, and Gen. Klaus

Naumann were due Monday

afternoon in Belgrade to

warn Milosevic to honour

the cease-fire, agreed to in

October under threats of

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) -

Taiwan will purchase and outfit

six to 10 submarines based on

German and American technol-

ogy, significantly upgrading its

sea defences against rival

China, a newspaper reported

The first of the submarines is

expected to be launched in

2005, marking a major success

for Taiwan's lobbying efforts in

the United States and reflecting

Washington's concerns over

killings in Rucak.

a cease-tire.

tional outrage,

with sonar, weaponry and other on-board systems from the U.S. and Europe, by the Taiwanese Defence Ministry's Chungshan Institute of Science and Technology and the stateowned China Shipbuilding Corp., the paper said.

Taiwan also used foreign components in the 1980s to develop the Indigenous Defence Fighter jet. The fighters filled a major gap in Taiwan's air defences at a time when the U.S. and other countries were refusing to sell new

planes to Taiwan. No price tag was given for the subs, but Taiwan in 1991 attempted to buy a dozen U-209s from Germany for U.S. \$12 billion. That deal was

Security Council, which did not want to anger China. China claims Taiwan as a renegade province and pres-

rejected by Germany's Federal

sures foreign governments not to sell any modern military hardware, especially marines, to the island. Beijing downgraded diplomatic relations with the Notherlands for three years after

the Dutch sold Taiwan two Zwaardis conventional submarines in 1981. Taiwan also operates a pair of ageing former U.S. Guppy II-class submarines. Taiwan's Defence Ministry

did not comment on the report. in keeping with its policy on not discussing weapons purchases. China Shipbuilding Corp.

Vice President Kuo Chung-Hsing said his company had not received any information about

Obtaining a submarine fleet has long been a top priority for Taiwan's military, and President Lee Teng-Hui has made numerous personal appeals to tance in buying or assembling Some defence experts esti-

mate Taiwan needs at least 10 submarines to guard its waters.

Though most of China's large submarine fleet is obsolete, it has increased the threat to Taiwan with the addition of modern nuclear-powered Kiloclass subs from Russia.

Though it has diplomatic relations with Beijing instead of Taipei, the U.S. is committed by law to ensuring Taiwan has a

September 187 Chinese envoy welcome to visit Taipei' IOD the life 👡 by Barne 🙉

British Politica TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwan Teng-Hui said Monday that China's The last top envoy Wang Daohan so processing was welcome to visit the island despite controversy over the terms of his proposed trip.

We welcome his visit." Lee said during a meeting with Doug Bereuter, who heads the Asia-Pacific group of the U.S. House of Representatives internaional relations committee.

Thave been earnestly booking forward to Taiwan visits by mainless. with the said, adding that hopefully they would come to learn about democratisation on kills one and help improve ties.

At a press conference after a private meeting with Officials of the cabinetevel Mainland Affairs Council, Koo Chen-fu,

Taiwan's chairman of Exchange Foundation (SEF), hinted that the government might make a reciprocal gesture when Wang arrives.

Chinese President Jiang Zemin met Koo in Beijing in October during a ground-

breaking trip. However Taipei and Beijing are in dispute over preconditions for Wang's

Last Friday the SEF's Chinese counterpart the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) said Wang would travel to the island "at the proper time."

It asked the SEF to send a deputy secretary general to the mainland to work out details of the trip and demanded political and economic dialogue when Wang visits Taipei. SEF vice chairman Shi

Hwei-Yow Saturday said Wang had set no terms last year for his planned Taiwan visit and he could not understand why Beijing came up with such demands now. Shi criticised what he

called "bluffing" tacties which he said China employed before negotiations. Taiwan wants to keep any talks general.

SEF and ARATS are quasi-official bodies authorised to handle exchanges in the lack of official contacts. The two bodies held an historic dialogue in Singapore in 1993.

But China put a second Koo-Wang meeting on hold and suspended other highlevel contacts in mid-1995 in protest at a trip to the

state prosecutor his life. The six-man, six-woman jury that found Capano guilty Saturday of murdering Anne Marie Fahey will begin a new hearing Wednesday this time to determine whether or not it will recommend the death penalty.

Following the announcement of the verdict Sunday. lead defence lawver Joseph Oteri said that before exploring an appeal he first needs to protect Capano from execu-

"We hoped we had convinced the jury there was reasonable doubt," Oteri said. "We will go on to the penalty phase and save Tom's life."

The guilty verdict against Capano came after three days of jury deliberation that capped a 12-week, high-profile trial.

Without a body, a weapon or any concrete evidence to prove how Ms. Fahey died. prosecutors used circumstantial evidence to show Capano had planned her death. Jurors had to believe the crime was premeditated to convict on the sole charge of firstdegree murder.

Capano — a member of one of Wilmington's most powerful families and a former aide to both former Gov. Michael Castle and former Wilmington Mayor Daniel

Frawley - admitted dumping Ms. Fahey's body at sea. but said another mistress had killed her by accident.

The trial had Delawareans transfixed, exposing sensational details about some of the most influential people in this usually staid financial centre, with its tightly interlocking circles of law, poli-

"fully believed he was going to be acquitted," stared stone-faced as the verdict was read to Superior Court Judge William Swain Lee's silent courtroom.

Marguerite, burst into tears and his daughters held each other. On the other side of the room, Ms.

Fahey-Hosey, cried tears of "Tom Capano put a lot of

and jury to decide. We will be very comfortable with any decision they make," he said. "In some ways, life in prison could be a crueller punishment than death." For 2 1/2 years. Capano had maintained he didn't know what had happened to Ms. Fahey. 30, after they dined at a posh Philadelphia restaurant on June 27, 1996. She was never seen again.

Bloodstains were found in

gators learned that Capano had replaced a rug and dumped a bloodstained sofa at a family construction site

turnaround. Capano admitthat Ms. Fahey was killed at his house and he disposed of her body with his brother's help.

Fahey. for 18 years.

Capano's house the night Ms. asked her to lie

prosecutor convicted of murder Prosecutors said Capano began planning the murder in early 1996, as Ms. Fahey's Capano, a married man with not long after Ms. Fahey van- relationship with another four teenage daughters.

to extricate herself from her three-year affair with

Convicted murderer Thomas Capano (left) walks from the courthouse with a corrections officer, after being convicted of first degree murder in Wilmington, Delaware (Reuters photo)

Philippines death row convicts could swell to 50,000 in five years

MANILA (AFP) — The num-Philippines could swell to more than 50 000 her of death row immates in the than 50,000 within five years at apon had the rate they are being senlineed lawyers opposed to Capital Monday. capital punishment said

The volunteer Free Legal half penalty law, saying it was lon easy for innocent people to the convicted given "the imperweaknesses and prob-

FLAG provides legal assistant and the second AU provides legal assistance to 38 year-old decorator to 38 year-old decorator Echegamy, a convicted Dinue stay of execution from The group released a study he Supreme Court last Jan. 4. o vote on four resolutions that Vould uphold the 1994 law and ave the way for the first judi-

al execution in the *hilippines in 23 years. Sponsors of the resolutions had hoped their approval would put pressure on the Supreme Court, whose 15 justices meet Tuesday to discuss whether to lift a temporary restraining order that deferred Echegaray's execution.

But legislators opposed to the death penalty stalled the debates until late Monday.

The House committee on rules agreed to have all four resolutions consolidated into a single document. A vote was expected late Monday depending on the presence of a quorum as many of the 139 congressmen were already seen

House speaker Manuel Villar however told reporters "we are not governed by any deadline. we are passing the resolution to express the sentiment of the house for whatever purpose that it may serve."

A five-year review by FLAG found a 65-fold increase in the number of condemned prisoners to 819 as of end-1998. The list has since swelled to 865.

"If this pattern is sustained, one can expect that by the year 2003, there will be 50,765 persons confined at the country's death row," the group said.

National surveys point to huge support for the death penalty, with the Roman Catholic church presenting the only other organised resistance.

President Joseph Estrada has vowed to veto legislation that would seek to abolish or amend the statute, which he said was a crime deterrent.

Lawyer Jose Manuel Diokno told a news conference the supreme coun had approved the execution of 14 convicts this year, which would be the largest single year of executions in the country.

The group said 100 people were executed between 1924 and 1976, including 17 Japanese war criminals who were hanged sometime before April 1950.

Eighty-two convicts were executed by electric chair and one by firing squad.

Ex-state WILMINGTON, Delaware (AP) - Thomas Capano's

highest political and legal circles ended when a jury pronounced him guilty of murdering his mistress, the governor's scheduling secre-Now the only question is whether the conviction will

tics and business. cost the 49-year-old former Capano, who Oteri said

Capano's

Fahey's sister, Kathleen

people through a lot of distress, suffering and pain," prosecutor Colm Connolly said after the verdict. "Our hearts go out to the Fahey family." When asked what punishment the Fahey family wished for Capano, her brother Robert Fahey said the family will remain silent.

"It's really up to the judge

Capano's house and investi-

ished. In a stunning ted on the stand

He said anothmistress. Deborah MacIntyre, had found him and

Fahey together and threatened suicide. When she produced a gun, Capano said, he lunged for it and it went off. killing

Capano said he lied to protect Ms. MacIntyre, a former administrator at a prestigious private school who had been his lover

The jury didn't believe it. MacIntyre

denied being at Fahev died and told investigators Capano asked her to buy him a gun in May 1996, then

Jordan Times

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King returns to people

JORDANIANS WHO for the past months have been praying for the recovery of His Majesty King Hussein and for rain must be hopeful for a brief spell of sunshine to be able to go out and greet their beloved King and express their happiness over his safe homecoming. Those who cannot make it because of weather or distance will be glued to their televisions to watch the King's arrival at Marka airport and the reception in the streets of Amman.

It is not only that most Jordanians have known no other leader but that they know very well that through the King's vision, dedication and hard work, Jordan stands where it is today. King Hussein built a modern Jordan and its various institutions in the midst of a hostile region and with meagre natural resources. The King, aided by determined men and women, instilled in Jordanians the importance of education. moderation, tolerance and the sense of belonging, values which set the Kingdom apart in an often turbulent region. Unlike many Arab leaders, King Hussein achieved most of the goals he set for his Kingdom by applying democratic and pluralistic princi-

In the last 10 years he further strengthened democracy in the country through the introduction of political reforms that led to the proliferation of political parties and newspapers. And today, the King says he will introduce additional reform, something that the people are more than eager to participate in.

High in the minds of the people of course are further measures to enhance the economy and thus lead to the creation of more jobs and the alleviation of poverty. These steps, many Jordanians believe, need to be accompanied by a crackdown on corruption and inefficiency in the civil service. While Jordanians recognise that this government has started the battle against corruption they see that battle being won by the added weight of His Majesty's support.

As one professor commented recently the people are willing to tighten their belts if they see genuine reforms being effected. And they know very well that the King is determined to implement reforms at all levels of govern-

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Dustour's Mazen Saket said the Industrial Organising Unit is one of the most important achievements in the industrial sector and must be protected in order to organise national industry, defend its interests, effectively participate in setting up legislation, regulations and policies that concern the sector. However, added Saket, the Amman Chamber of Industry, which last year began establishing industry chambers in some cities to support the unit, has not yet found a solution for national industry to preserve its unity. Despite the delay in restructuring the unit and amending its regulations, and obstacles posed by the executive authority, the chamber must press ahead in its mission to reform the unit, because it is of national and industrial importance, said the writer. Without such improvements, Jordan's industrial body will be fragmented. Saket warned and urged the chamber, and the Ministry of Trade and Industry as well as all industrial activities to make renewed efforts to implement the amendments.

Al Dustour's Abu Yazan said the state of drought that was officially declared by the government on Saturday is a "smooth" state of emergency announcement. Governments usually declare a state of emergency during wars and natural disasters, and the drought in the Kingdom is close to being disastrous, claimed Abu Yazan. Figures for average water consumption from underground wells and renewable resources demand a declaration of a constant state of emergency, said the writer. An individual's share of water does not exceed 175 cubic metre a year and this means that the country can be said to suffer from "extreme water poverty." according to Abu Yazan. Moreover, that number is being steadily reduced with an increasing population and a high level of consumption resulting from economic and social modernisation. Since Jordan is geographically and economically limited in resources, long-term national solutions are essential to solve the problem, but, said Abu Yazan, regional settlements are required too and these are conditional upon the resolution of the Iraq crises and the peace process.

National challenges and needed transitions

excitement in Jordan today because of the return home of His Majesty King Hussein after a six-month stay in the United States for cancer treatment, Beneath the surface of this week's mass personal acclaim for King Hussein are deeper tales about issues that His Majesty himself has raised: the challenge of viable and durable statehood, and the quality of life of the modern Jordanian citizen. For along with the joy for His Majesty's cure and his healthy return home, there is equally widespread expectation here that the King's return will trigger what he called, in his television address to the nation Saturday, "a comprehensive review of our nation's progress" and the need to "address all issues and chal-

lenges that occupy our minds." The personal acclaim for King Hussein expresses people's deep support and love for him as their leader since 1952 (a remarkable 47 years); its political dimension expresses broad, fundamental support for His Majesty's leadership style and the consequent impressive development of Jordan since 1952. Even those who disagree with government and state policies on specific issues value His Majesty's role in making Jordan today a state where such disagree-

a civil manner --- a state that is widely respected for its combination of sustained material development, its respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual, and its sense of collective human solidarity.

Typically, King Hussein has used the opportunity of this emotional moment to focus on the needs of the country, especially the need to identify and address our most important national challenges. Here are some thoughts from one Jordanian national on how some of those challenges may be framed: 1. We must make the transition from

dependence to productivity: Jordan must make a sustained shift away from the citizenry's heavy dependence on the central government for their basic needs (jobs, education, health care); instead we must work towards a situation in which the state concentrates on protecting the neediest in society, while encouraging the productivity of the most able and dynamic. The recent budget debate was a troubling reminder of how most elected parliamentarians tend to breed greater dependency on the state, instead or furthering the dynamism and productivity of their

own constituencies. 2. We must make the transition from

THERE IS much anticipation and ment can be discussed openly and in provincialism to cosmopolitanism. and from the personal to the political. in major aspects of our domestic public life. The modern participatory and democratic political institutions of Jordan and all other Arab lands have earned only limited credibility and respect - because they tend to revolve primarily around personalities that represent deeper tribal. regional, ethnic, or sectarian interests. This relatively narrow personal and regional nature of our representational public life will doom our democratisation process to chronic under-achievement, because it does not allow for real political account-

> ability to happen. Politics is the contestation of power allocate scarce economic resources in an equitable manner among all in society: political leaders promote national development and long-term viability and well-being when they are truly held accountable for their actions. We still do not have real politics or deep accountability in Jordan or the Arab World, only political institutional forms copied from the West that translate into often superficial

accountability. Consequently, many Jordanian and Arab citizens feel they are victims of injustices or inequities in society that the powerful can exploit the sysView from the **Fourth Circle**



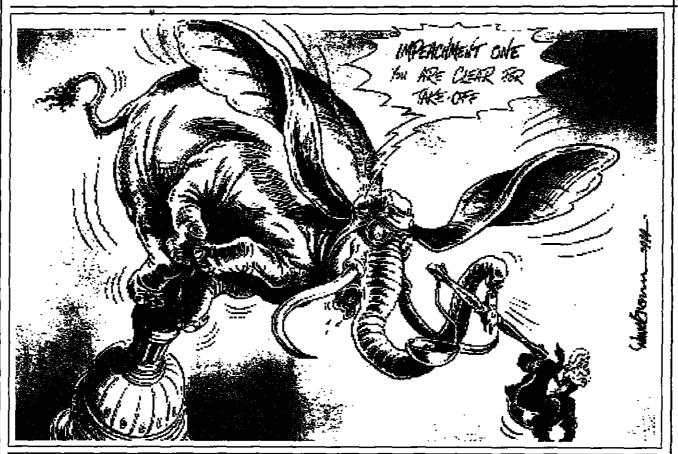
Rami G. Khouri

tem for their personal benefits with-out being held accountable to a single public standard of law or decency. King Hussein himself explicitly emphasised this in his letter of appointment of the Tarawneh government last year, but the problem has been with us for years and remains largely unaddressed.

3. We must make the transition from biology to ideology, and from the needs of the group and the tribe to the rights of the citizen. Most power relationships in Jordan and the Arab World are still based on personal contacts and blood relations; most Jordanian and Arab citizens still turn

to their cousins or friends in high places - rather than the political or legal system — when they need to redress a grievance. Biology and blood ties carried the world through most of its first ten thousand years of settled village and city life. But biology cannot function effectively as the primary medium of political and national life in an urbanised globalised commercialised privatised digitised, mobile, and wage-labourbased society such as we live in today. We have to move towards public decision-making based on trying to ensure the equal rights and opportunities of all the citizens of the state, on the basis of the rule of law.

These are some of the broad issues that I feel need to be addressed in Jordan and most of the Arab World in the years and decades to come. His Majesty King Hussein's joyous return home this week included his call on Jordanians to start addressing our national challenges, because he instinctively feels and knows where we have succeeded and where we still need to work hard to achieve success. We honour him and ourselves by being proud of our achievements as a state, honest about our weaknesses as a state --- and diligent in our determination to close the gap



The ABCs of academics

Don't know your ACTS from your A-LEVELS? Don't worry, help is at hand in the form of this 'mini-dictionary' guide for confused parents and students to the bewildering world of academic abbreviations. Part one appeared yesterday

By James L. Gillespie

GMAT The Graduate Management Admissions Test is the basic admissions test used for MBA programme as well as graduate programmes in areas such as finance. It includes two essays and multiple-choice sections dealing with verbal skills. mathematics, analytical skill and data sufficiency analysis. The examination is written for native speakers of English. Jordanian students will, therefore, find the vocabulary expected of the student to be very challenging. The GMAT is now a CAT examination. Contact AmidEast for details.

GRE The Graduate Record Examination is the basic admission test for students seeking to pursue graduate degree programme in areas other than business, law and medicine. There are two elements to the GRE programme. There is a general examination similar to SAT I that tests verbal and mathematical reasoning as well as a section to test logic and analytical abilities. Since the GRE is written primarily for native English speakers, the vocabulary in the verbal section is very challenging. The general GRE test is now a CAT examination. GRE also offers subject area examinations in the field in which the student will pursue his/her studies. Not all universities or programme require subject examinations. The applicant should check the universities and/or programmes in which he/she interested to determine if the subject GRE is required. Contact AmidEast for details.

IB The International Baccalaureate Programme is an international advanced-level curriculum of secondary education based upon examinations in six subject areas in addition to additional componems in community service, research writing and theory of knowledge. Many universities award course credit for the successful completion of IB examinations. The programme is administered by the International Baccalaureate Organisation which is based in Geneva, Switzerland. The Ministry of Education recognises the IB Diploma as a Tawjihi equivalence.

ICE The International Certificate of Education is a coordinated programme of IGCSE studies based upon passing examinations in seven subjects distributed among five subject groups.

IELTS The International English Language Testing System is an examination devised by the British Council to test the readiness of students for study in an English language university. The 2 1/2hour test consists of sections on reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It is used as an admission criterion for international students by universities in Britain and Australia. For details contact the

Secondary Education offers 'O'-Level Examinations administered by UCLES. Although based upon the British model, IGCSE is designed as an internationally oriented early secondary

school (16+) curriculum.

LSAT The Law School Admission Test is the basic test for Admission for legal studies in the U.S. It is administered four times a year by Law School Admissions Services. It is divided into five multiple-choice sections: two sections of logical reasoning, analytical reasoning, reading comprehension, and a section of experimental questions. There is also a writing sample which is not graded, but which is sent to the law schools to which the student applies. For details contact AmidEast.

MAT Miller Analogies Test is a test of logic and thinking skills based solely on multiple choice analogies. It is used by some American universities as a alternative to the GRE as a test for admission to graduate studies.

MCAT The Medical College Admission Test is the entrance examination required by most med-ical schools in the U.S. and Canada. It is administered by the Association of American Medical Colleges. MCAT is a full day examination that is administered in April and in August of each year. The MCAT has four sections: verbal reasoning, physical sciences (physics and chemistry), a writing sample, and biological sciences (biology and organic chemistry).

NMSQT See PSAT. 'O'-Level Ordinary-Level examinations are early secondary school examinations in individual subjects undertaken after a two-year course of study. IGSCE and GCE (GCSE) curricula are based upon 'O'-Levels, A candidate for admission to a British university should present at least six 'O'-Levels in addition to two to three 'A'-Levels.

PSAT/NMSQT The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test is a shorter version of the SAT L It uses old SAT I questions, and it serves to introduce students to the skills and format of SAT L Students often take this examination while they are in the eleventh grade. This same test also serves as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. which is used to identify students who are eligible for these scholarships. For Jordanian students, the PSAT is best seen as practice for SAT I. For details contact AmidEast

SAT I The Scholastic Aptitude Test is the widely used university entrance examination. ETS administers the SAT programme. It is almost universally used by North American universities as well as by American universities overseas such as The American University of Beirut, SAT I is a 3hour examination divided into section designed to IGCSE The International General Certificate of uest verbal and mathematical reasoning. SAT I is

supposed to test a student's reasoning skills rather than the student's knowledge. Since reasoning, however, can only be tested through word and/or numbers, the student's basic knowledge is also tested. SAT I is written for native English speakers. Jordanian students, therefore, will find the vocabulary in the verbal sections very challenging. Students planning to take SAT I should work especially hard on expanding their English vocabularies. For details contact AmidEast.

SAT II The Scholastic Aptitude Testing programme also offers a series of one-hour multiplechoice examinations in specific subjects. Although not as widely required as a university entrance qualification as SAT L many universities require applicants to take from one to three SAT II examinations. Students should check the requirements of the universities (and the specific university programmes) to which they intend to apply to determine which SAT II examinations they might need to take. In Jordan, the Ministry of Education has established a Tawjihi equivalence curriculum based upon scoring above 400 (SAT II, like the sections of SAT L is scored on a scale of 200 to 800) on six SAT II examinations in specified content areas. This programme is unknown ourside of Jordan. The more normal ETS secondary programme in the rest of the world is the AP Diploma. For details contact AmidEast and the Ministry of

TOEFL The Test of English as a Foreign Language is now a CAT test administered by ETS. It is the most widely used measure of the ability of a student to study in an English language university. In addition to an essay, the test has three multiple-choice sections: Listening, grammar & structure, and reading comprehension. For details con-

UCLES The University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate administers a number of rogrammes such as AICE. IGCSE and ICE. JCLES also administers several examinations.

For further information:

U.S. based tests: AmidEast -- 586-2950 British based tests: The British Council - 463-6147/8

The writer is the Chairman of the Academic Committee of The American University of the Middle East. He is an examiner for AP and IB, and also serves as a consultant to The Modern American School and The Sweis Educational Centre

LETTERS

Best wishes

To the Editor:

THANKS TO God that His Majesty is well! We wish him a long and happy life. We are praying for his health and hope to see him soon in Amman.

> Yancale hr@netvision.net.il

For Senate there are lessons to be had from history

"THEY DID not know what impeachment was, exactly, but they had a general idea that it would come in the form of an avalanche, or a thunder clap, or that maybe the roof would fall in." Thus wrote Mark Twain on the eve of the only other impeachment trial to be held for a United States president — the unloved Andrew Johnson back

in 1868. Then, as now, Congress was

at the historical weight of its deliberations. Then, as now, nobody seemed sure where the process would lead or what its reverberations might be. In one respect. perhaps. the proceedings have become

swept away by

rhetorical awe

more civilised: if Bill Clinton believes he has been on the receiving end of unkind jibes from his congressional adversaries, he

can at least be thankful he was colourful epithets hurled at Johnson. One Republican House mem-

ber denounced Johnson as "an ungrateful, despicable, besotted traitorous man — an incubus." The editor of the New York Tribune, Horace Greeley, called him "an aching tooth in the national jaw, a screeching infant in a crowded lecture room. Amid the hysteria, particularly in the course of the House debate, Johnson was accused of dragging the robes of his office through "the purlieus and filth of treason" and all this just because he had insisted on dismissing his Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton. Times have changed, of course, and while the rhetoric may have become more polite the issues have changed in weight and importance. Johnson was the man thrust into the presidential limelight after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. A Democrat and a southerner brought on to Lincoln's Republican ticket in the name of national unity.

Johnson had his own ideas how

the country after the civil war and his sympathies for former southern slave owners incensed Republican-dominated

Congress. Stanton became of the focus of his incessant tug-of-war with Congress because Johnson considered him the last key congressional ally left in his cabinet. When he insisted on his removal, Congress rose up in revolt dug up an old law (subsequently deemed unconstitu-

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One Republican House member denounced Johnson as "an ungrateful, despicable, besotted

54 senators then sitting, 42 were only 12 were Democrats. Furthermore, Johnson · · enjoyed barely a fraction of Clinton's poputraitorous man larity. In his

power, Johnson organised a speaking tour aroundspared some of the more the country and was heckled relentlessly across the Midwest "I never saw a man who seemed as friendless and forsaken, and I never felt for any man so much," an unusually sincere Mark Twain wrote for the Chicago Republican.

What saved Johnson was a growing realisation of the absurdity of the charges against him, the possible damage removal from office might do to future presidencies, and misgivings about his putative successor. It came down to the very last vote — that of Senator Edmund Ross of Kansas who eventually sided with the president and was reviled as a perjurer by many of his old friends.

Johnson saw out his full term, but his reputation never recoveered. The incident also did considerable damage to the comtry's political institutions which, according to Twain, "are not merely food for laughter. they are an entire banquet. Clinton may need to be careful, but the Senate had better watch

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By Karen Le

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Change of heart signals new direction for World Bank

In a new report, the World Bank has sketched the outlook for developing countries and the global economy, and within the doom-laden figures lies a significant shift in the bank's attitude towards managing the world's finances.

By Jeremy Scott-Joynt

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A YEAR AND a half after the Asian currency meltdown heralded the current crisis in global financial management, the World Bank says it is learning the lessons.

For the countries which bore the brunt, they are hard indeed.

In 1997, 7 per cent of the world's population lived in countries with shrinking per capita GDP. In 1998. the figure will be more than a quarter: Over a billion people, living in 36 countries including Brazil. Indonesia and Russia.

Global output growth last year will halve from the 1997 figure of 3.2 per cent, to just 1.8 per cent.

In Indonesia, one of the countries worst hit, real wages fell by more than half, as the number of people classed as living in poverty climbed

by nearly 20 per cent. Few disagree that the massive capital inflows in the years leading up to the crisis, and the subsequent rush for the financial exits, were among the major causes of the plummeting Hong Kong dollar, Korean won, Indonesian ruphia and Thai baht. among others.

Till now, though, anything approaching real, practical criticism of the way the pieces of equity and capital markets fit together has been firmly off the agenda of the world financial system's barons.

No longer, According to the bank's annual "Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries" (GEP) report, it's always too much of a risk to rely on short-term money in the manner of the Southeast Asian and Latin American countries caught in the currency crisis.

Systemic crises, the report explains, have become both more common, and much more serious, in the last 10 to 15 years - which, although the bank makes no explicit connection, is roughly the period during which the "Washington Consensus" of open markets and minimal regulation as the cure for all ills has held sway,

The central conclusion tof the Report) is that it's difficult to deal with these crises when they erupt." said Uri Dadush, the director of the

Bank's development prospects group. And, he went on, that means trying to fix the problems in retrospect is nosubstitute for admitting the design flaws that helped bring them about. and redesigning the systems accord-

In a significant change of mood from two decades of pure laissezfaire nostrums, the report urges caution in liberalising a country's capital and financial accounts. If you jump feet first into the global economy, it

says, you are highly unlikely to float. And it doesn't matter what preparations you make, "With large inflows, you are going to have a terrible time whatever system you have," said

In other words, the tribulations that both East Asia --- and now the world are tacing cannot simply be pinned on "erony capitalism," the favoured whipping-boy of recent analyses of the crisis, or inadequate domestic systems of regulation and transparency.

Instead, the blame has to laid at the door of "the interplay of weak domestic systems with imperfect international financial markets."

Which means that the much-derided "herd mentality" of players in the global finance arena - the tendency to follow the pack, so when one institution flees the rest follow --- and the abysinal record on accurate risk assessment are just as much at fault as anything a single country has

This has led the bank to rethink its policies on two main fronts.

On one hand, the bank's "caution" about financial liberalisation - not trade liberalisation, which is still seen widely as an unalloyed good -now means that it supports the concept of control on short-term capital.

We need better mechanisms to dampen volatility," said Masood Alunad, the Bank's vice president for economic policy. That means taxes and capital controls. "They may have costs," he continued, "but they are

outweighed by the benefits." Time is up, in the Bank's view, for the excuse that liberalisation and the natural workings of the global economy are natural forces before which we must all bow down.

"People are going beyond accepting things as a fact of life, and actually doing something about them." said Ahmad of international market "imperfections."

More than that, though, the bank has now fully accepted that social welfare is not something that can be left out of the equation when drawing up plans for the developing coun-

"Given that you can't avoid crises, you need better social protection mechanisms," Ahmad said, And even though the report speaks of social protection "during crises" for "the poor and other vulnerable groups, Ahmad went on to confirm that such measures could not be retrofitted.

"Social safety nets have to be in place beforehand," he said, "In Indonesia [last] year, the money was there. The mechanisms were the problem."

Along with market reforms and domestic regulation, these are the yardsticks by which the bank will judge itself in future. "We have more to do than we have been doing in the past." Ahmad said.

The bank's change of heart - signalled in recent speeches by its president, James Wolfensohn, in which he stressed that the human cost of economic development could not be simply written off as "part of the cure" - is a welcome one.

But the Bank is only part of the story, it works in concert with the other international financial institutions (IFIs), particularly International Monetary Fund (IMF).

And the GEP was released in a week when it became clear that the IMF's prescription for Brazil's bailout package — \$41.5 billion in new loans - involved swingeing cuts in social programmes and in sustainable development projects within the Amazonian rainforest which, ironically, are backed by World Bank money.

Clearly, any shift within the IFIs towards a more realistic, and less quasi-religious, view of global markets is a welcome change from the

But the bank should add a fourth priority to the three listed above: Conniving its colleagues that they, too, need to learn the tough lessons of the present crisis. Otherwise the increasing propensity of the world economy regularly to fall apart at the seams will continue to be seen as a fact of life, a law of nature - not an artefact of human frailty and human

Gemini News.

Greenpeace warns of Russia plan to import N-waste

By Adam Tanner Reuters

THE ENVIRONMENTAL group Greenpeace said on Tuesday Russia was considering importing nuclear waste from Switzerland for longterm storage in a move it called illegal and environmentally risky. A Russian Atomic Energy Min-

istry official who took part in September talks in Zurich confirmed to Reuters Moscow was exploring reprocessing and storing spent fuel from Switzerland and other Westem nations but had struck no deals

"There were such talks, but that does not mean that Russia or Russian representatives have agreed to import or export anything," said Boris Nikipelov, a ministry market-

"The question is being studied in Switzerland and France and Germany and in the East." In Zurich. Swiss utilities acknowledged having held talks on storing nuclear waste in Russia, but they did not inform Swiss authorities since no contractual agreements had been made.

"A memorandum of understanding is not a contract and therefore not presented to authorities," the Swiss utility Nordostschweizerische Kraftwerke (NOK) said in a statement which it released on behalf of itself and other nuclear

Greenpeace released a September 17 document signed by Russia and a Swiss utility official from Elektrizitaets-Gesellschaft Laufenburg AG expressing Swiss interest in sending spent fuel to Russia for permanent storage.

"Such a shipment is completely illegal under Russian environmental law." Greenpeace anti-nuclear campaigner Igor Forofontov said. Society knows nothing of these activities." NOK said the fact that Swiss utilities have made various international contacts to talk about permanent international storage sites has been publicly known for

The memorandum did nothing more than confirm talks would also be held with Russia about the possibility of international long-term storage of radioactive nuclear waste, it added.

A spokeswoman for Switzerland's Environment, Energy and Transport Ministry said they learned of the memorandum from the Greenpeace statement.

Nikipelov, one of two ministry officials present at the talks, said nuclear officials were trying to change a 1991 law that allows reprocessing but not storage of for-

Before reprocessing you need to have storage," he said.

Many countries import or export nuclear power plant waste, but the issue alarms some Russian experts who say the country is already unable to handle its own waste left from the Soviet era.

Before the 1991 law was adopted. Russia imported waste from countries using Soviet-designed nuclear power plants including Ukraine. Lithuania and Finland, officials

"All necessary safety measures are taken; a special train, reinforced security," said Yuri Bespalko, a spokesman for Russia's Atomic Energy Ministry, "So far there is no basis to sound an alarm. This alarm by Greenpeace is a false alarm." If the nuclear waste imports from Switzerland take place from 2000 to 2030 as outlined in the preliminary protocol, it would be the first time Russia had accepted nuclear waste from Western-designed reactors, officials said.

Environmental officials estimated Russia stood to earn between \$270 and \$1,000 a kilogramme by taking nuclear waste, with the Swiss protocol calling for several thousand 30-year period.

Such amounts mean billions of dollars for cash-strapped Russia. but political pressure from environmental groups has already ended an agreement to process Finnish nuclear waste.

Vicious cycle of global warming hits ocean

By Michael Kahn Reuters

GLOBAL WARMING could disrupt the ability of a large portion of the world's oceans to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, setting off a vicious cycle in which the earth gets even hotter. researchers said on Thursday.

Evidence from a new study indicates that some scientists conditions: global warming may promote the growth of algae in the Southern Ocean that do not absorb carbon dioxide as well as others.

These waters around Antarctica make up 10 per cent of the world's oceans and play a significant role in soaking up carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas seen as one of the main causes of global warming, Kevin Arrigo, a biologist at NASA-Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland, who led the study, said.

"The capacity for the Southern Ocean to take up carbon dioxide might be reduced. Arrigo said in a telephone interview. Since carbon dioxide contributes to global

believe a growing buildup of the gas would make the environmental prob-

lem increasingly worse. Plants "breathe" carbon dioxide and help control the balance of the gas in the atmosphere. About half the plants that use this gas are in the oceans. Arrigo said.

But the earth's rising temperatures create an environment where some phytoplankton. called nate over single-celled algae called Phaeocystis Antarctica, which are better at absorbing carbon dioxide.

"Given the amount of nutrients. Phaeocystis Antarctica takes up almost two times as much carbon dioxide." Arrigo said. Writing in the journal

Science, the researchers said increasing stratifica-tion of the Southern Ocean, or differences in water density at different depths, was the change causing diatoms to dominate the environment.

Normally there is very little stratification in the Southern Ocean because trequent strong winds keep the waters well mixed, Arrigo said.

But the increased precipitation that scientists predict will happen with global warming means more diluted water is sitting on the top, making the waters more difficult

This causes the death of the more efficient carbon-eating phytoplank-

"If global warming continues with increased precipitation in the Southern ean, there will be more stratification and that will favour diatoms. Arrigo said.

The study, which took place during a monthlong expedition during the Antarctic summer. was also one of the first to show that some types of algae absorb carbon dioxide better than oth-

Arrigo said knowing how much atmospheric carbon dioxide the oceans use is important for scientists when trying to predict climate change.

"We need to understand the capacity of the world's oceans to take up all this carbon dioxide. he said. "At some point i the ocean might reach its ; limit and shut off."

Killer bees make their debut in California as nature imitates Hollywood

By Karen Lowe Agence France Presse

"KILLER BEES arrive" screamed one headling that seemed like Hollywood disaster film hype but signalled a real invasion of a deadly species of bee that officials say are here to stay. Photos of the fierce hybrid of

in the Los Angeles Daily News hovering over a map of sprawling Los Angeles County like so many troops about to hit the beach at Normandy. Cato Fiksdal, the Los Angeles County agricultural commissioner. warned Californians of the lethal potential of swarms of Africanised bees. But personally, he was san-

"There are lots of risks in life. We eam to adapt. This is another we'll have to adapt to," he said. "I'm not

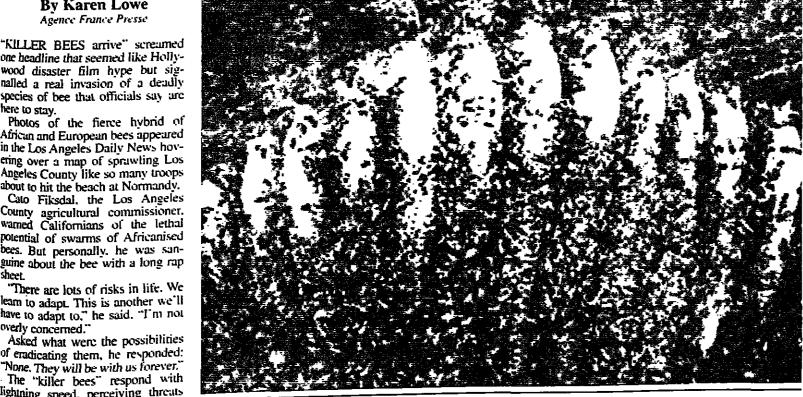
werly concerned." Asked what were the possibilities of eradicating them, he responded: None. They will be with us forever." The "killer bees" respond with ightning speed, perceiving threats from 16 metres away, and can be agilated by vibrations from power equipment 30 metres or more from

Their potential to kill has spawned hysterical newspaper and exaggerated magazine articles that inevitably led to Hollywood, which has produced several pictures portraying massive swarms invading cities and

The bees have killed five Americans since migrating through Mexi-00 from South America. They were first spotted in California late last year in a suburban Lawndale apartment building in Los Angeles Coun-

Like their European counterpart. the African bee produces honey and can only sting once. But what sepaates it from its tamer cousins is the terocity and persistence of its

They are deadly when aggressive. Fiksdal said. "If you disturb their colony they will come out in



Killer bees at hive (file photo)

Unlike European honey bees... African bees will chase an attacker for a quarter of a mile and sting by the hundreds

mass. They will continue their attack relentlessly until they feel the threat is gone."

Unlike European honey bees which will pursue threats in small numbers for a short distance. African bees will chase an attacker for a quarter of a mile and sting by the

Suggested response to an attack is to find shelter in a car or building. If there is no shelter. Fiksdal said, "just run." For those who seek escape by

jumping in the water, the bees will hover and wait for the victim to sur-

So far, in the past eight years they have spread through parts of Texas. Arizona and New Mexico, and Fiksdal said they could migrate farther north and east depending on their ability to adapt to shifting tempera-

The African bee arrived in the hemisphere in the 1950s when Brazilian geneticists decided that

they might be better suited to South America's tropical climate than European honey bees.

But they were released from the breeding programme before selection was completed and have spread at a remarkable 480 kilometres per year ever since, making their U.S. arrival inevitable.

Their incursion into California has consequences for agriculture, a multibillion dollar industry in this

Beekeepers may provide the best defence, according to entomologist Kirk Visscher of the University of California at Riverside, as the feral African bees and the European bees in apiaries compete for food.

To ensure that European hives remain pure, beekeepers will regularly have to change the queen bee to ensure the hive is not colonised by African bees and their queens.

Hollywood heart throb Leonardo DiCaprio denies damage to island beach

Agence France Piesse

"TITANIC" FILM star Leonardo DiCaprio tried to calm an environmental row raging over his new movie Monday, insisting he loved Thailand and would not tolerate any damage being done to a picturesque beach used in filming.

Environmental campaigners claim alterations made to Maya beach in southern Phi Phi island national park for the movie "The Beach" will ruin the eco-system of an idyllic bay.

But DiCaprio, star of the multi-Oscar winning "Titanic," said he would never be associated with a project that damaged the environment.

"Before I arrived in Thailand, I was assured that nothing done by 20th Century Fox would have any detrimental effect whatsoever, and that the island of Phi Phi would be returned to its natural state.

"In my two weeks here I have seen extraordinary measures being taken to protect the island, and I pledge to remain vigilant

and tolerate nothing less than these maximum efforts, he said in a state-

"Preservation of the environment has always been of the utmost importance to me and I would never be part of any project that did anything to harm nature.

"I love Thailand. This country is magnificent, the people are especially warm and welcoming and I feel privileged to be filming

DiCaprio on Saturday became the target of protests against the movie when campaigners mounted a demonstration on boats outside the luxury hotel at southern Phuket Island where he is staying.

Others demanding access to the film set argued with Fox representatives on a police launch guarding the entrance to Maya bay at Phi

Campaigners claim producers Fox have churned up dunes, ruined the ecosystem of the beach by planting palm trees and ripped up vegetation vital to binding the beach together.

They say that come the rainy season later this year, sands will be swept into the sea and damage exquisite, natural coral.

Fox denies the charges. and has defeated two attempts to win injunctions from opponents who want shooting to be halted until a full court case in March.

The film giant has already shelled out for a \$138,800 bond against ecological damage. A fresh petition has been lodged with the court calling on them to pay a \$2.7 million bond against i environmental damage.

The row over the film has been brewing for months and has involved protests, sit-ins and a letter campaign in Thai newspapers.

"The Beach," based on Alex Garland's cult novel of the same name, tells the story of a traveller whose infatuation with Thailand leads him to a remote island inhabited by a community of displaced Westerners.

OPEC oil revenue reportedly fell \$62b in '98

countries oil revenue plunged by \$62 billion, or 35.6 per cent in 1998 to their lowest levels in almost a decade, the specialist weekly Petrostrategies said Monday.

Total oil revenue for the 11 members of the Organiof Petroleum Countries Exporting (OPEC) fell to \$112 billion in 1998 from \$175 billion the previous year, the weekly said.

"It is the lowest level of revenue since 1989, the weekly said, and was due to a steep fall in oil prices. with the average price of OPEC oil falling 37 per cent to \$11.8 from \$18.6

The biggest sufferer was Indonesia, whose revenue fell 42.8 per cent to just over \$3 billion from \$5.3 billion in 1997, according to figures compiled by Pet-

But most other OPEC members suffered a fall in revenue of at least 30 per cent, with the exception of Qatar, whose oil income fell 29.9 per cent to \$3.6 billion from \$5.2 billion.

Iraq boosted its oil revenue by 11.8 per cent to \$5.16 billion, but this was only because it doubled the amount of oil it exported under an oil-for-food deal with the United Nations.

Petrostrategies also found that OPEC oil exports increased 1.9 per cent in 1998 to an average 26.4 million barrels a day from 25.9 million in 1997. despite pledges by OPEC members to cut output in a bid to boost prices.

Meanwhile, the global slump in oil prices has hit Russia hard, slashing nearly 30 per cent from the country's revenue from oil exports last year despite a 10 per cent increase in production, statistics released

by the customs service showed.

Russia's oil exports for the first 11 months of 1998 were worth 29.7 per cent less than in the same period in 1997, while exports for the period totalled 116.43 million tonnes of oil, a 10 per cent increase on the same period in 1997.

Because of the drastically reduced oil prices, revenue from the Russian oil sales dropped by \$3.76 billion in 1997, Revenue had reached \$8.89 billion in 1997.

To compensate for the price fall, oil companies are expected to announce that in 1998, oil production increased to a new record lever of 295-300 million tonnes.

Exports of gas, crude and derived products make up 42 per cent of Russia's foreign currency earnings. Russia is the world's third largest producer of

over, Miyazawa says

TOKYO (AFP) - The dollar's dominance in global markets is over following the euro's launch. Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday.

"The dollar's one-currency dominance is over," Miyazawa said in an interview with Kyodo News. For the countries that

think pegging their currencies to the dollar alone is no good. I propose their currencies be linked to a basket in some cases," he told the news agency.

Miyazawa said global currency issues would be discussed at a Group of Eight (G-8) summit in Cologne after the launch of the euro. "The currency issue will

be on the agenda of the Cologne summit." Miyazawa said. "I hope some ways (to stabilise currency markets) will

come out of the session. For now. I hope exchanges of information and policy consultations will be promoted further though these may not grab the headlines." he added. Leaders of the G-8 Britain, Canada, France. Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States are to meet in the German city in June for their annual summit.

Miyazawa also said some steps needed to be explored at the summit to prevent hedge fund operations involving large, unchecked capital flows across borders from badly affecting emerging market economies.

Hedge funds are considered to be a major force behind the financial storm that swept Asia during the past 18 months.

On Brazil's economic woes. Miyazawa said global markets reacted favourably to its decision over the weekend to float the real.

He said it was necessary to watch the currency's movements and the Brazilian government's policy for a little longer before judging at what level the real should

attempts to throw off the

burden of a cradle-to-grave

welfare system and reform

ailing state-owned enter-

prises has led to millions of

redundancies every year

and sparked fears of grow-

Retired and laid-off work-

ers frequently stage protests

ing social unrest.

China sees shortfall of 16m jobs in 1999

BEIJING (AFP) — Sixteen million Chinese will be unable to find work this year as the labour market is flooded with laid-off workers. fresh graduates and demobilised soldiers. according to an official estimate reported Sunday.

The projection comes as China is hit by an apparent wave of social unrest. despite warnings from the leadership that it will crack down hard on any form of "instability" during the coming year.

"China's experience in the last two years clearly shows that the fight against unemployment is a more arduous task than controlling inflation." Ministry of Labour and Social Security expert Mo Kong told the China Daily Business Weekly.

Mo said the number of people seeking jobs is expected to hit 30 million in 1999, but with economic growth slowing, only around 14 million new positions would be created.

"This leaves almost 16 million people who will be unable to find a position through the labour market. Mo told the paper, adding concerted efforts were needed to create jobs and training proprovide grammes for the unemployed.

in major Chinese cities. sometimes blocking roads and railways, or sitting in at their places of work in protest at their employers' failure to pay them.

China does not allow any trade unions or labour organisations other than those sanctioned by the Communist Party and regularly throws unofficial labour organisers into рлізоп.

government already laid off more than 10 million workers from loss-making state enterprises and plans to cut six million more jobs in 1999.

President Jiang Zemin vowed in a speech to the nation to "nip in the bud" any form of social unrest as China entered 1999, a year of politically sensitive counterparts here. anniversaries.

Jiang highlighted unemployment as the problem most likely to lead to social unrest. Ailing state-owned companies, dwindling rural incomes, rising crime rates and official corruption were "technically impossible" by

Dollar's dominance is | Foreign investment in Israel plunged 40 per cent in 1998

TEL AVIV (AFP) - After Treasury's top official several years of steady growth, foreign investment in Israel plunged 40 per cent in 1998 from the previous year, the Bank of Israel reported Monday.

Total foreign investment in Israeli firms, including purchases in companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges. fell to \$2 billion last year from \$3.45 billion in 1997 and 52.82 billion in 1996. the bank said.

The drop was due to a falloff in purchases of Israeli stocks on the New York and Tel Aviv bourses from \$1.9 billion in 1997 to \$525 million in 1998, the lowest level in four years.

The bank, in its report, said much of this decline was due to the lower number of shares issued by Israeli companies in New York following the market's decline early in the year.

The tendency accelerated in August. September and October when foreign investors sold off some \$300 million in holdings on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange due to the financial crises in Asia and Rus-

Direct foreign investment in Israeli companies remained stable at S1.4 bil-

Meanwhile, the Israeli

warned Monday he might recommend suspending parliamentary approval of the 1999 draft budget if lawmakers insert too many changes in it.

"In this situation... it is likely I will recommend before the prime minister and finance minister. Benyamin Netanyahu, to consider the possibility of continuing to manage the Israeli economy over the next half year on the basis of the 1998 budget." Treasury Director General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb said.

Zilberfarb said he preferred not to suspend the budget process but that he did not want to see it approved "at any price."

The government's 1999 spending package, totalling some 215 billion shekels (\$52.6 billion), has been beld up in parliament since Netanyahu's coalition collapsed December over the Wye River peace agreement with the Palestinians.

Since the start of the year. the government has been operating under a legal provision that allows the previous year's budget to remain in force.

Israelis are set to vote in general elections on May 17. In the meantime, legislators inside the lame-duck coalition have been seeking to insert spending increases directed at their constituen-

Treasury Budget Director David Milgrom said Monday the extra spending proposals jeopardised this year's deficit target of 2.0 per cent of gross domestic product.

"The 1999 budget will be forced to carry a line of unplanned expenses, including financing for parliamentary elections totalling some half billion shekels, Increased allocations for coalition agreements threaten our ability to meet the budget framework." Milgrom said.

On Sunday, the parliamentary finance committee failed to muster enough votes to clear the budget arrangements law for a plenum vote. The legislation is needed to put the budget into effect.

Zilberfarb warned that if the extra expenditures were approved by parliament the new government would face a difficult dilemma after election day of either saddling the economy with the added burden or cancelling the added spending.

The economy will pay the price for unnecessary changes in policy." he said.

EU ministers reject call for early launch of euro cash

BRUSSELS (AFP) -European Union (EU) finance ministers Monday rebuffed a call from Belgium for the introduction of euro notes and coins to be brought forward from Jan. 1.

Belgian Finance Minister Jean-Jacques Viseur said the gap between the launch of the euro on financial marand the moment when notes and coins will be available to citizens had left the public confused and frustrated.

"Understandably, citizens have difficulty understanding why they have to wait until 2002 to have the euro in their pockets," Viseur said at the meeting with his EU

"We should not be too timid in examining whether it is possible to bring forward the introduction of the notes and coins." he added. But the idea found little enthusiasm among other EU countries and was declared European Central Bank (ECB) Governor Wim Duisenberg.

EU Finance Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy said a majority of ministers were opposed to changing the decision.

His officials would carry out "one final check" of whether the move to bring forward the introduction of

"We will do that very quickly but the basic feeling was that it was not appropriate to change the agreed timetable," he said.

De Silguy indicated that bringing forward the introduction of notes and coins would create "significant logistical problems" and also undermine the planning of large companies and public administrations who were counting on a Jan. 1, 2002 date.

"One of the strong points of the euro has been that the dates announced have always been respected," French Finance Minister

THE BETTER HALF,

Dominique Strauss-Kahn

Viseur said he saw no practical reason why the notes and coins could not be introduced on Oct. 1, 2001,--three months earlier.

Belgian Deputy Prime minister Elio di Rupo has called for the introduction to be brought forward by a full_... vear.

always been cool about proposals to bring the launch date forward, arguing that the full three years is likely to be needed to complete technical preparations including the conversion of millions of cash registers

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and coin-operated machines. Central banks have also indicated that most of the three years will be necessary to complete the production of the 50 billion coins and 30 billion notes needed.

Britain - which is not in the euro zone — also cast doubt on whether early introduction would be feasi-

By Glasbergen

GLASBERGEN

Brazil currency float puts onus on fiscal discipline WASHINGTON (R) - Brazil abandoning a policy of holding continue to be single-digit this said Monday it will initially the currency within a broad

defend its free floating currency with higher interest rates, while pressing ahead with reforms to put its fiscal house in order.

Finance Minister Pedro Malan said he had convinced the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the U.S. Treasury that a floating exchange rate was the best option for Brazil, discarding a new peg to the dollar or a rigid currency board

Malan said markets has "reasonably" and would set a new value for the Brazilian currency, the real, over the next few days, according to supply and demand.

He said Brazil did not need more financial aid and had not sought early disbursements from a \$41.5 billion international rescue package marshaled by the IMF in November to defend the real from speculative attacks in the wake of the Asian and Russian crises.

"We are in a different world in which we are not defending a given exchange rate peg, and therefore there is no loss of reserves to defend the peg." Malan told a press conference at the IMF after a weekend of emergency talks.

Brazil's central bank announced earlier Monday that it would allow the real to float.

DOWN

Inventor

Use an ax

range against the dollar. The bank said it would only intervene occasionally, and in a limited way, to curb steep swings in the currency's value.

The real, which lost 15 per cent of its value last week, was trading down at 1.59 reals per dollar on Monday afternoon in Sao Paulo. 10 per cent weaker than its Friday close.

Malan said Brazil's interest rates would have to remain high for the near future, and any reduction would largely hinge on country's ability to rein in its large fiscal deficit, equal to eight per cent of the country's output.

"I am recommending that the committee on monetary poucy discuss a widening of the interest rate band to allow the active use of interest rates, with an initial upward bias that may be required to maintain low inflation," he said in a statement issued after the press confer-

He said monetary policy will respond promptly to any significant depreciation of the real and keep inflation low. Malan said it was too early to

estimate the impact the devaluation will have on growth in the world's eighth largest economy, which has been plunged into a recession by global financial turmoil.

But he said inflation would

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

year, most likely around 6-7 per cent. With a floating exchange

rate. Malan said Brazil had to redouble its efforts to achieve fiscal austerity to maintain confidence in its finances.

He said the government will seek to speed up reforms of the social security and tax systems in congress. "Additional measures will be adopted, as appropriate, to deal

with the fiscal impact of the exchange rate devaluation," he Malan said Brazil was committed to fulfilling the fiscal targets laid out for the next three years in a programme agreed to with the IMF last

cial support. But he said some targets will have to be renegotiated to take into account the new exchange

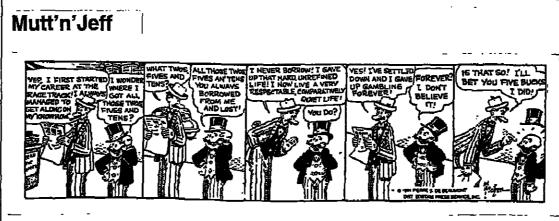
"We will have to redefine the basic framework and some of the key parameters of the programme," he said.

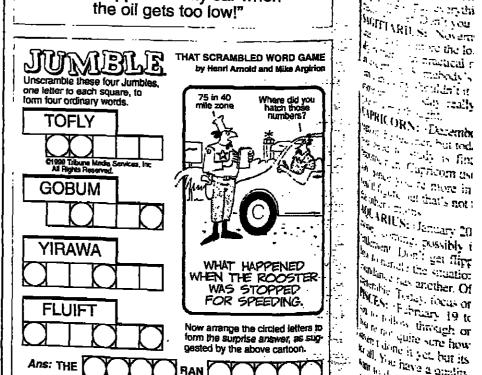
The IMF said in a statement it would send a team to Brazil soon to draw up a new monetary and macro-economic framework.

IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus welcomed Brazil's assurances that it will cont...Je its fiscal reform and privatisation programmes and keen inflation down.

also cited. government's Peanuts I NEVER GOT STARTED AROUND TO READING BUS STOP THE BOOK WE to read IT, BUT I WERE SUPPOSED COULDN'T TO READ DURING understand CHRISTMAS VACATION







HABIT

Pilots and cab drivers have this in common -- AIRPORT TAXIS

RARITY EXPOSE

Jumbles: PATIO

'I'm afraid to eat low-fat—I've seen

what happens to my car when

5 Open-hand 14 Ms. Fitzgerald 15 Coarse greens 16 Core group 17 Montgomery Clift movie 19 Church Instrument 20 Take it easy 21 Prepares to propose 22 Request another hearing 25 Remaining 26 Function 27 Transform 30 987-65-4321 grp. 33 Actress Cannon 35 Clift movie 37 Blood of gods 39 Rew mineral 40 Fountain orders Fort Washington, MD 41 Clift movie 44 Sacred ceremony 45 D.C. VIP 5 Cast-iron pan 6 Molten rock 7 Haley or Trebek 46 Extreme 48 Sister 49 Island off 8 According to 9 Clift movie Donegal 50 Denver pro indicator 52 Soviet dictator 11 Border SNEEZES PONTIAC STAYED PIG OATS ESSEN CUTOFF 55 Reject disdainfully 12 River of Russia 13 Farm enclosures 57 Russian balle 18 Stand on hind сотпрапу I V O R Y O S C A R 58 Clift movie legs 21 French soldier's 62 Silly 63 Tightrope, e.g. 64 Grain-field SEETH ROUGH Lama snipe cap 22 Fiscal exams 23 Lover of Eros 65 Sword choice 24 Mate of a very 66 Disagreeable showy bird 25 Poorest, responsibility 67 Hades river **excusewise** 52 Snow gliders 53 Singer Turner 28 Navigational 36 *School

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take the plunge LEO: (July 23 to August 22) Follow your partner's sugges-

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and the proper en mandet and and المساورة والمساورة Ad Paul Best of E $\mathbb{R}^{n_{\mathrm{total}}} \leq C(n_{\mathrm{total}}) \leq C(n_{\mathrm{total}})$ The line of the Police See Sulper our Ediscuss an impending financial decision. You'll be able to get the money you need over the next few weeks, most likely. If

Don't hold back.

By Glasberge

t-1've seen

come up with today really could generate more income, so CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Yours is the sign of the teacher, but today you'll also be the student. What you need to study is finances. There are several ways to become rich. Capricorn usually does it by taking on a second job. Since you're more intelligent than usual today, perhaps You'll figure out that's not the only way to get rich. Try one of the other options.

AQUARTUS: (January 20 to February 18) Looks like there's money coming, possibly from a legacy, inheritance or legal schlement. Don't get flippant. You need to be careful about how to handle the situation. Scarcity has one set of problems: abundance has another. Of the two, abundances is, of course, Preferable. Today, focus on a plan to achieve and maintain it. PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) Somebody's bugging you to follow through on correspondence you'd promised. You're not quite sure how to go about it, and that's why you haven't done it yet, but its time to handle the matter once and for all. You have a quality about you that makes other people Want to do what you ask. Take heart and go after what you

Birthstone of January: Garnet - Rose Quartz

A review of news from the Arabic Press

Government will shortly amend new customs law to close gap on exemptions

** AN AMENDMENT will shortly be made to the new customs law in order to give back to the Cabinet the authority to grant customs exemptions on some imports. Finance Minister Michel Marto said this week. He explained that the cancellation of the authority, given to the Council of Ministers under the old law. has created a gap which would have a negative effect on the Jordanian economy and many productive sectors.

"A number of service and productive sectors which depend on importing production inputs from abroad have been negatively affected by the new law which, if not amended, will cause disruptions and losses to these sectors and reflect on all the national economy," the minister said. He pointed out that the legal phrasing is currently being prepared to amend the new law and that it will forwarded soon to the Council of

According to Nazmi Al Abdallah, the director general of the Department of Customs, the problems which emerged as a result of implementing the new law will be studied to resolve and umend what is required to achieve the aim of the law." The department will request that the main production inputs be specified for important industries, such as the pharmaceuticals, to include them in the tariff lists which are currently being prepared." Abdallah said. "They (inputs) will be studied to arrive at a decision whether they should be exempted or listed for customs duties." he added.

Abdallah said his department has forwarded to the Council of Ministers the regulations and instructions issued in accordance with the new customs law.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1999

By Linda C. Black, Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Today's good for a meeting

with friends, where you decide to take strong action. Make

sure you invite all the people who know what's going on. They

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Someone in your life seems

to know it all, or at least thinks so. You might be tired of this

by now, but if you listen, you may discover a way to advance

in your career. Just gather the information you need, so you

can make your next choice sensibly. A compromise will be

necessary, but don't worry. It'll be good for you in the long

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Stretch those muscles today.

Try something that's way bigger than you've ever done before.

Run the marathon. Write the novel. Call up that person you

haven't spoken to in years and clean up that old misunder-

standing. This is the kind of day you can get away with things.

CANCER: (June 22 to July 22) Don't forget to contact a dis-

tant friend today. Somebody has good news and is waiting to

hear from you. Meanwhile, you and your partner still need to

you've got something big in mind, this could be the time to

tions again today, especially if money is involved. He or she

has put in the time and effort to find the best deal. If you don't

know who your partner may be in this situation, its most like-

ly someone with an analytical frame of mind. Buddy up with

VIRGO: (August 23 to September 22) Technical matters again

dominate your attention, and it may feel a little overwhelming.

Instead of trying to master everything at once, take a little piece of it and commit that to memory. If you keep doing that for long enough, you'll be an expert. That's the same way you can eat an

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 23) If you've got a crush on somebody, take care. Your romantic interlude could get in the way of your gainful employment, and that could cause an embarrass-

ing situation. Don't let the boss catch you making goo-goo eyes

at each other at the water cooler. Keep your mind on business as

SCORPIO: (October 24 to November 21) You should be in

the mood to fix things again tonight, and you'll save yourself

lot of money in the process. You might also discover you're ascinated by figuring out how things work. The only problem

is, you might put everything back together and find a few

pieces left over. Don't you just hate it when that happens?.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Your nat-

ural wisdom is more the lofty, esoteric kind. You don't gener-

ally bother with practical matters, but today you could make

somebody like that, at least for today.

elephant, by the way, one bite at a time.

rive it some thought.

much as possible, at least during working hours.

He emphasised that comprehensive plans will be implemented this year to simplify and facilitate customs procedures. The implementation of the new law will be accompanied by a comprehensive delegation of authority and an implementation of 'selectivity regulations' for clearing customs transactions." Abdallah con-

Commenting on the new customs law, Maher Matalqa, the president of the federation grouping pharmaceutical producers, said prices of medicines may rise by 50 per cent if the concellation of exemptions continue. Noting that the pharmaceutical industry could face a difficult problem, he revealed that several memoranda were sent to the concerned parties to rectify this issue.

Matalqa pointed out that an agreement was reached with the Department of Customs to release medicines against a legal guarantee until a decision is reached on exempting production inputs from customs. He indicated that 16 pharmaceutical industries produce medicines valued at JD205 million annually noting that this industry ranks second after phosphate. "Pharmaceutical exports amount to JD160 million each year whereas the sales in the local market amount only to JD45 million," Matalqa

He attributed the problem to overlooking the pharmaceutical industry and not taking it into consideration when the new law was formulated. "The exemption of industrial production inputs is a declared government policy," Matalga emphasised stressing that this policy should continue (Al Ra'i + Al Dustour)

Egypt sells cement factory to France's Lafarge

CAIRO (AFP) — The Egyptian government has approved the sale of a state-owned cement company to Lafarge of France for 1.8 billion pounds (\$382 million), officials have said.

Under the terms of the deal Lafarge will also inject \$120 million into Beni Sueif Cement to upgrade the factory and double production to 2.8 million tonnes a year, a spokesman for the privatisation board told AFP.

Lafarge also agreed to pay the company's debts which are estimated at 900 million pounds (\$300 mil-

Sueif Cement Beni employs 730 employees and ranks eighth for the production and sale of cement in Egypt, which produces a total of 21 million tonnes of cement annually for the local mar-

Small U.S. oil producers face another rocky year

NEW YORK (R) -America's small oil companies, those still standing after one of the oil patch's roughest years, should brace for even harder times in the months ahead, the chairman of a trade association has warned.

"For a small Oklahoma producer, there's no reason to think that the situation is going to get better rather than worse," George Yates, chairman of the independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), said in an interview.

Indeed, oil analysts say the collapse in oil prices, which has cheered consumers but crushed the budgets of even the nation's largest oil compames, is unlikely to be reversed any time soon.

The IPAA estimates that a year of low oil prices has cost the industry about 50,000 jobs, and predicts that it the market doesn't recover in the next 12 months, some 500,000 barrels per day (bpd) of production from so-called marginal wells could be permanently shut down.

While each marginal well produces less than 15 bpd by definition, taken together, they account for about 1.3 million bpd of supply - or roughly as much oil as the U.S. imports daily from Saudi Arabia.

And as those wells have become unprofitable - in most cases, oil prices need to run over \$15 a barrel to keep them in the black - countless oil companies have been pushed to the brink of bank-

For his part, Yates said his privately held company, based in New Mexico, has no plans to drill any new oil well over the next 12 months.

"We've really hunkered down," said Yates, a thirdgeneration oilman. "I've late '60s, when we were selfing crude oil for a little over \$2 a barrel, which is substantially more than we're seeing today," when adjusted for

inflation. For smaller publicly traded oil companies, low oil prices have sent stock prices reeling. In the case of Snyder Oil Corp., even a takeover by Santa Fe Energy Resources Inc. failed to win over investors. Shares of Fort Worth, Texas-based Snyder have fallen more than 10 per cent since it announced plans to be bought earlier this

month. To combat low prices, the IPAA has urged Congress to consider tax relief measures. and called on the U.S. Department of Energy to purchase at least 35 million barrels of oil for the nation's emergency stockpile to pull excess supply out of the mar-

British businesses top world surge in foreign investment

LONDON (AFP) businesses topped a surge of international mergers and acquisitions in 1998, up 60 per cent on the previous year worldwide to \$544 billion (469 billion euros), according to a study by KPMG accountants released Monday

KPMG said the frenzy of cross-border investments was the biggest in eight years of surveys, with only a full during the August-October emerging mar-ket crisis sparked by Russia's financial meltdown.

The total number of cross-border mergers, acquisitions and strategic investments fell from 5.775 to 5.153, but this was compensated for by a "sharp increase in the average size of cross-border transactions," the survey said. For the first time,

British firms overtook

U.S. companies as the most active, notching up \$127.72 billion in foreign deals, up from \$32.62 billion in 1997. U.S. firms announced \$124.76 billion worth of deals in the year.

The main target for

British companies was the United States, which attracted almost 80 per cent of British foreign investments, including a S61 billion merger between BP and Amoco. Inward corporate investment into Britain

rose to \$86.11 billion.

the biggest target in Europe.

Deals into the United States, easily the most attractive target in the world, more than tre-bled to \$201.18 billion from \$64.29 billion. Asia, with the excep-

investors "as international companies shied away from its economic and financial problems," KPMG said.

tion of Japan, attracted

far fewer international

Foreign acquisitions in China more than halved to \$4.96 billion and fell to almost a third at \$2.27 billion in Hong Kong.

Japan saw growing investment because of up from \$55.41 billion.

making Britain easily restructuring." KPMG said. Inward investments rose to \$6.91 billion from \$1.05 billion.

However, Japanese companies only invested \$7.24 billion abroad, down from S11.71 bil-

Central and eastern Europe were shunned, with foreign acquisitions in Russia almost halved in Russia to \$2.29 billion.

In Latin America, Brazil confirmed "its status as the region's biggest target for forlegn buyers, with a doubling of inward "growing possibilities acquisitions to \$24.61

Vodafone wins AirTouch

for \$66.5b LONDON (R) - British mobile phone company Vodafone Group has won the

battle to buy U.S. wireless દ્યાંત્રહા AirTouch Communications Inc in a \$66.5 billion deal that will create a global telecoms pow-

erhouse.

The AirTouch Ple will have a combined market value of about \$110 billion, making it the third largest publicly-traded company in Britain with more than 23 million customers around the world.

Under the terms of the deal, Vodafone is offering to pay AirTouch shareholders about \$97 per share, consisting of five Vodatone ordinary shares requivalent to 0.5 Vodafone Depositary Receipts) and \$9 in cash.

That would put the total eash and stock value of the deal at \$62 billion, based on fully-diluted AirTouch's share capital of 638 million shares, a source close to the talks said.

Including assumed debt of about \$4.5 billion, the total value is \$66.5 billion, making the transatlantic deal the largest cross-border merger to

The deal also includes a \$1.0 billion break-up fee payable to Vodafone should any rivals try to wreck the

For accounting purposes, the merger is being structured as an acquisition, a move likely to hit Vodafone's earnings in the short term as the company writes off goodwill against profits.

Nissan auto is forced to shop for merger to survive

TOKYO (AFP) --Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. of Japan, struggling under the weight of staggering debts and poor sales, desperately needs a merger partner to survive, analysts said Monday.

The price of shares in Nissan climbed on the Tokyo stock market Monday after the company had said that it would consider offers Renault SA, from DaimlerChrysler AG

and Ford Motor Co. "Nissan has terrible fundamentals and doesn't really seem to be doing the right stuff in . terms of restructuring." a senior analyst Schroders Japan, Koji said. without any help from outside I don't think Nissan

could survive. Nissan's stock rose by 19 yen, or 4.8 per cent, to close at 416

yen (\$3.70). Nissan, the secondbiggest Japanese auto maker, has now seen its share price crumble 75.5 per cent from a record high in 1989, and would provide a foreign car maker with a temptingly cheap entry into the Japanese and Asian markets.

A deal could come as early as this week, since DaimlerChrysler's chairmen, Robert Eaton and Juergen Schrempp, are expected to meet Nissan officials in Tokyo in the coming

Endo said that a deal with DaimlerChrysler

was the most likely result. The two firms are already in talks about Nissan's truck affiliate Nissan Diesel Motor Co. Ltd.

"The best candidate is still DaimlerChrysler. Nissan is keen on playing a game with DaimlerChrysler by suggesting that it is talking to other names to get a better deal," he said.

He sees Nissan's passenger car range in the United States fitting well with Chrysler's light trucks and minivans. In Europe, where Nissan is not strong. again its passenger cars would tīt with Daimler's operations.

In its home market Nissan offers a door to the potential of a recovering Asian market, even though its operations there are not as strong as its Japanese

rivals. "In the next five to 10 years Asia is probably going to be the fastest growing car market in the world," Endo said.

A tie-up with one of the big Western car makers would cause another major shake-up in the global auto industry, which is plagued with poor profits and over-capacity.

But any foreign buyer looking to take a stake in Nissan would face a number of problems, not least a huge total debt estimated by Schroders at 2,700 bil-lion yen (\$24 billion).

Nissan is taking a rough ride, falling into the red in the six months to September, with a parent net loss of 32.5 billion yen.

Most Japanese car makers have struggled in the past year, hit by falling exports to Asia and a collapse in demand at home brought on by the country's worst post-war recession.

Even the giant Toyota Motor Corp. has admitted it is only just above the water in its home market, where it holds a 40 per cent stake.

"I think every manufacturer is considering some kind of consolidacial at Mitsubishi Motors Corp. In Japan we have so many car manufacturers in one country it is quite unique. Everyone is going to work on a reduction of platform numbers.

Mitsubishi itself has been the subject of merger rumours and has worked hard to share its technology, particularly on greener engines. with other car makers.

'We are seeking many kinds of possibilities. we are working with many manufacturers. maybe sometime we could have some kind of ugreement," the official said."There are many kinds of merger possibilities but I would prefer us to be indepen-

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Australian Open just avoids Black Monday

MELBOURNE (AFP) -Australian Open top seed Marcelo Rios and hard-hitting Goran Ivanisevic failed to make it out of the casualty ward on Monday turning the men's contest into a lot-

out in the first three hours and two others - American Williams Spaniard Alex Corretja -fought back from the brink.

If Japanese wildcard Takao Suzuki had held his

Three seeded players went nerve and his serve, in the ninth game of the fourth set. against No. 2 seed Corretja. the men's contest would have lost the world's top three players on the first day.

the World No. 2

11th seed Ivanesivic, runthree-times at ner-up Wimbledon, both cited back problems. Rios has a stress fracture.

World No. 1 Pete Sampras

from Chile and last year's had already decided he was losing finalist and Croatian too tired to tackle two weeks in the Melbourne

> Corretja proved his toughness by hanging on for the sort of win future champions look back on as a turning point.

And Pat Rafter reopened wounds over the Petr Korda drug controversy, saying the Czech should not be allowed to play at the Open after his positive steroids last year's Wimbledon.

Williams, beaten by a resurgent Steffi Graf in Sydney last week, was given a torrid examination by Croatia's Silvija Talaja before the American fifth seed prevailed over the World No. 82 in a 150minute slog in the heat.

"Today was an all-time low for the last two weeks. but there's always a chance to go up. When you're at your lowest, you can definitely go up," said Williams. who will play Sweden's Asa Carlsson in the second

Corretja was made to squirm in a five-set dogfight with Sukuzi. who was playing in his first Grand Slam tournament

A monumental upset was on the cards before Corretia levelled the match with a tiebreaker in the hour-long fourth set.

"It wasn't much fun out there today, but it's still nice to keep winning even if it was so tough and you are close to losing, I wasn't playing my best." said

The Spaniard, a losing French Open finalist last year, typified the stuff champions are made of.

"Even when you're losing, you keep trying and keep trusting yourself." he



Germany's Anke Huber makes a return to Irina Spirlea of Romania during their first round match 18 January at the 1999 Australian Open in Melbourne. Huber defeated Spirlea 7-5, 6-1 (AFP Photo)

That could not be said of Romanian 13th seed Irina Spirlea who went tamely out to Anke Huber of Germany. a semi-finalist here last year but unseeded

this time. "I lost to her a few weeks ago, so I wasn't sure about today's match," said Huber. "I won all our previous matches, but I think she didn't feel great today, she really didn't try hard.

Thomas Johansson of Sweden, the men's 16th seed, must also have wondered what happened. He went from 2-1 up to lose a tie-break 7/4 and the last set love against Nicolas

Lapentti of Ecuador. Ivanisevic's early departure gave British sixth seed

Tim Henman an extra reason to smile after he swept aside Morocco's Karim Alami in straight sets in just 79 minutes.

He had been drawn to play Ivanisevic in a possible fourth round encounter.

Henman put aside the memories of last year's humiliation of losing to French qualifier Jerome Golmard in the opening round to hammer the hapless Alami.

Women's Lindsay Davenport cruised through against Spain's Gala Leon Garcia and said the World No 1 ranking had put no added pressure on

"I never expected to get to No. I and I don't think too many people did. So for me, it is almost like the icing on the cake," she said.

Wimbledon champion -Jana Novotna, in her first appearance in three years. strode through the first round, beating Anne-Gaelle Sidot of France in straight

And local favourite Mark Philippousis through in similar fashion against Geoff Grant of the United States, winning 6-3.

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But for a few anxious moments on Monday the Australian Open organisers must have wondered if they would have any cake at all as the grim reaper hovered over Melbourne Park.

Capriati fighting hard on the comeback trail

Australian Open 18 January, Rafter defeated Gross 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 (AFP photo)

MELBOURNE, Australia (AF) - Jennifer Capriati is making a habit of digging herself out of holes.

Trying to resurrect a career left in tatters by drug and shoplifting charges six years ago, the 20-year-old former World No.6 won a hard-fought victory Monday in the first round of the Australian Open agoinst Australian Dominikovic.

After being forced to prove herself in qualifying rounds in Sydney last week. Capriati battled for her 5-7, 6-3, 8-6 win over Dominikovic, ranked 211,

"I'm still hanging in there and really just trying - I'm very happy I won today," said Capriati, nursing a lingering rotator cuff injury with an icepack.

"I haven't pulled out a match like that in a long time, and it has always been that I've been the loser," she said, "After a while it just brings you so down. You just have to keep fighting. This time I just gave all I've got. I'm happy that I fought, and even when I got myself in the holes. I was able

to get myself out. Capriati, 22, from Wesley Chapel, Florida, was a set and 3-0 down to Dominikovic before rallying.

Dominikovic served for the match at 6-5 in the third set but at 15-15 produced two costly double faults to enable the American, now ranked 101, to break back.

Capriati last won a tournament in Sydney in 1993, before her career was dragged down by drug and shoplifting



Australia's Pat Rafter finesses a shot over the net to Oliver Gross of Germany during their first round match at the 1999

Jennifer Capriati

The 1991 Wimbledon and U.S. Open semifinalist and 1992 Olympic champion was arrested on drug charges in 1994 and went into rehabilita-

She put down the racket for one year, nine months, fourweeks. She says she is a stronger person since her fall. and feels bolstered by Monday's win.

"I'm pretty hungry." she said. "I think this match does a lot for me."

Capriati has forged a friendship with veteran German Steffi Graf, a winner of 21 Grand Slam titles who, late in her career, is keeping watch

over the youngster. "I know she's going through a hard time with her injuries and trying to come back but we are just there, always supporting each other," Capriati said.

Graf said she was trying 'to be there" for Capriati. "It sounds strange, but with Jennifer we have some kind of connection," said Graf. "I think she has so much talent and I

like her as a person." Dominikovic, 18, was disappointed at missing a chance to progress beyond the first round of a major for the first time.

MELBOURNE, Australia (AFP) - Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash threatened to break the shaky truce in the Australian Davis Cup team camp on Monday when he Mark claimed Philippoussis despised

Newcombe. Tennis Australia was hoping the upheavals of last year would be overcome Philippoussis agreed to return to the Cup team. albeit initially only for the first round tie against Zimbabwe in Harare in

captain

April. But Cash, a part-time coach to Philippoussis, reopened the wounds with an attack on Newcombe in a television interview Monday.

Cash Philippoussis had no respect for Newcombe he believed Newcombe did not respect last year's beaten U.S. Open finalist.

"I think it takes a lot of guts for a guy like Mark to go to Zimbabwe. go away from home, and be sitting down on the court with a captain who clearly doesn't respect him and he doesn't respect the captain. the 1987

Wimbledon champion. "But he's going to put all that aside, do the training, do the work that's asked of him and sit down on the court and win for your country when you despise the person next to you."

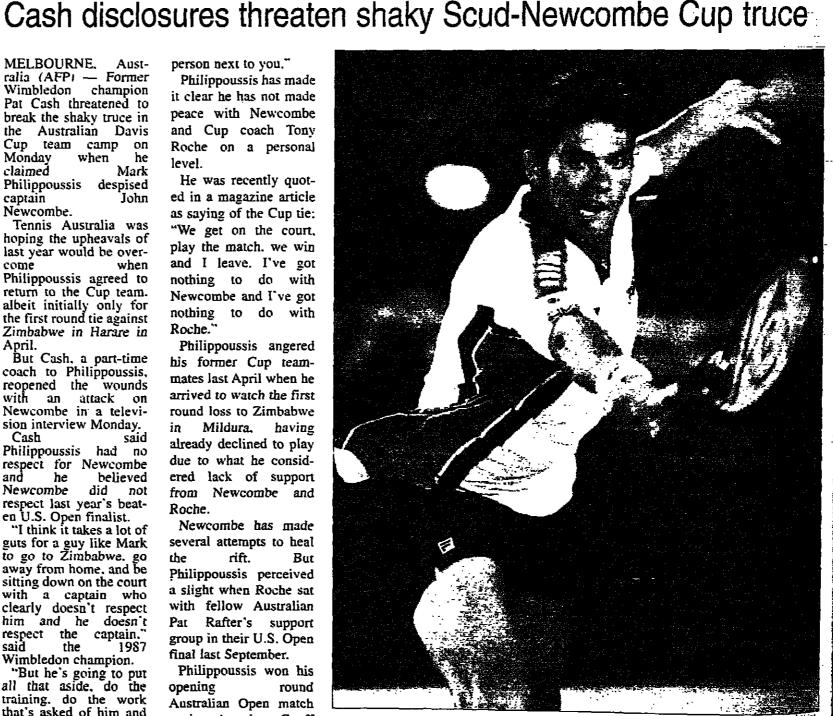
Philippoussis has made it clear he has not made peace with Newcombe and Cup coach Tony Roche on a personal

He was recently quoted in a magazine article as saying of the Cup tie: "We get on the court, play the match, we win and I leave. I've got nothing to do with Newcombe and I've got nothing to do with Roche."

Philippoussis angered his former Cup teammates last April when he arrived to watch the first round loss to Zimbabwe in Mildura, having already declined to play due to what he considered lack of support from Newcombe and Roche.

Newcombe has made several attempts to heal rift. Philippoussis perceived a slight when Roche sat with fellow Australian Pat Rafter's support group in their U.S. Open final last September.

Philippoussis won his opening round Australian Open match against American Geoff Grant in straight sets late



Mark Philippoussis of Australia stretches for a return to Geoff Grant of the U.S. during the first round of the Australian Open in Melbourne 18 January. Philippoussis is leading 6-3, 3-1 with play continuing (AFP photo)

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Powerful South Korean IOC | Fiorentina crowned 'Winter Champions' official denies misconduct

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) _ A powerful South Korean member of the IOC executive board on Monday denied any wrongdoing in connection with the Salt

Kim Un-Yong confirmed he had received a lener demanding explanations from IOC officials investigating allegations of misconduct by IOC members during Salt Lake's bid for the Winter Games.

Kim. 67, claimed that allegations against him were an attempt to defame

"I did not do anything that I should be ashamed of." he told reporters. "I don't even feel it necessary to comment on it, because I have absolutely nothing to do with the scandal.

"I already clarified my case and this will be cleared up in the IOC's executive board meeting on Jan 24," The IOC is investigating reports of cash payments. extravagant gifts and other favors to some of its members in exchange for votes leading to the selection of Salt Lake City as host of the 2002 Winter Games,

during their to

Huber delege

 $\{\{i_i\}_{i=1,\ldots,n}\}$

Kim is the biggest name among the 13 International Olympic Committee members linked to the scandal.

HOBART, Australia (AP)

Frolander beat world

champion Michael Klim

of Australia twice on

Monday night to take a

pair of gold medals at the

Frolander led all the way

freestyle convincingly in

48:32 seconds. Klim.

whose 49.62 was slower

than his heat time, was

In the 50-metre butter-

fly. Klim finished third

O'Neill

Australia took the 200-

metre freestyle after trail-

ing slightly for most of the

race, but finished too

strongly in 1:58.70 in

behind Frolander.

Sisie

win the 100-metre

swim meet.

Lars

World Cup short-course breaststroke, holding off

the

1:07.59.

final 25 metres.

Australian

medley.

trailed

Sweden's

He is part of the IOC's pow-

SportIntern, a Germanbased newsletter specializing in Olympic news, said Kim was implicated in a "minor offense" and was unlikely to face expulsion or other punishment from

He said nine had been accused of "serious" misconduct which could result in expulsions, while four others were cited for minor violations.

assistance in helping a member Vitaly Smirnov.

Considering a difficult situation in Russia in 1991 after the former Soviet Union collapsed. I introduced the student to former Salt Lake Olympics chief Welch, I did not receive any money or gift in return." Other details of the arrangement

At the time, Salt Lake was

Smirnov confirmed the IOC that he was under Russian hockey player and

He denied any wrongdo-

ing. Kim, an IOC member since 1986, has emerged as among the four most powerful figures on the committee. He's been a constant on the executive board since 1988, was a vice president from 1992-96 and is chairman of the radio and television commission.

Kim was a key figure in the running of the 1988 Seoul Olympics. He is president of the South Korean Assembly of International

Olympic Committee, the Tackwondo Federation and the General Sports Federations. Frolander double winner

halfway mark. But he

poured on the pressure on

the breaststroke leg and

World record holder

Jenny Thompson of the

United States continued

her dominance of the 50-

metre butterfly despite

Thompson, winner of

five gold medals in the

Sydney meet, went out

fast but held off Johanna

Sjoberg of Sweden and

Later, she finished sec-

Meissner of Germany in

the 100-metre freestyle.

behind Katrin

O'Neill to win in 58.00.

admitting to

towards the end.

won easily in 4:12.43.

preserved Fiorentina's immaculate home record with nine wins from nine games, albeit

Fiorentina ing, but of missing a great

opportunity. appointed about missing all our team players avail-out on that title," he said. able and it's a different

months, we deserved it. We might not be an orchestra, but the music which is coming out is certainly enjoyable," he said. Lazio's unstoppable form is mainly due to the recent return from long-term injury of defensive lynch-

> Giuseppe Signori brought high-flying Inter Milan

break.

Lazio coach Sven Goran

are doing really well.

thing," said the Swede.

sporting in defeat.

Parma coach Alberto

"We knew we'd be play-

ing the most in-form team

in the league," he said, "Unfortunately, football is

sometimes decided by the

odd episode. But it was a

fair enough result, they

defended well and were

very dangerous on the

Malesani was meanwhile

deserve it.

Fiorentina's Belgian, Luis Oliveira (L), chases the ball with Roma's Brazilian, Aldair do Nascimento, in an Italian League in Rome 01 March. Roma won, 4-1 (AFP photo)

crashing down to earth by

Eriksson said: "The team scoring one and making the other in a 2-0 victory for "It was hard in the first Bologna. It was a bitter disappointhalf, but we got the better of Parma in the second and ment for Inter's much-

Nintend:

we deserved to win. vaunted strike trio of Perhaps not 3-1, but we did Roberto Baggio, Ronaldo and Ivan Zamorano, who "Now we've got nearly had scored six goals between them the previous

weekend Inter president Massimo Moratti ventured: "Perhaps the attacking trio makes the midfield suffer too much in

an away game." Coach Mircea Lucescu "He's right. Attacking with three strikers is a good move if you are able to score early. But it' you don't make a good start, and if you even find yourself a goal down, it

causes probléms." But both men insisted that Inter are not out of the

title running vet. "Eight points are too many to make up only if we

play like we did in the second half here today," said Moratti. Fighting broke out as rival fans clashed before Venezia's 1-1 home draw

with struggling champions Juventus, who are now ianguishing mid-table. Police had to intervene after a coach full of Juventus fans arrived in the home team supporters' car park, instead of the one

ing fans. ANSA news agency reported. Venezia, who are rock bottom of the Serie A, took a shock fifth minute lead through Francesco Pedone.

specially set aside for visit-

Juventus had to wait until the 53rd minute for Daniel Uruguayan

draw which only confirms a widespread belief that this is not going to be Juventus' season. Coach Marcello Lippi,

who is widely expected to replace Lucescu at Inter next summer, admitted: We weren't very lucid in the first half and we didn't do much up front. That's why I brought forward Esnaider's debut.

"He's only been with us since yesterday but he's already shown some good things and helped Fonseca to equalise. From that point onwards, we played better football and went looking for a win.

"And that's what we aim to do from now on."

AC Milan ended a run of three draws with a 2-1 victory over a Perugia side who'd needed taxis to get to the San Siro stadium after tyres in their team coach were punctured by

Argentinian Guglielminpietro notched his first goal for the club since joining last summer German Oliver Bierhoff headed the other before Perugia's Japanese playmaker Nakata converted a 90th-

minute penalty.

The spot-kick was followed by a sending-off for go:dkeeper Sebastiano Rossi for a pointless, ugly foul on Perugia striker Cristian Bucchi.

Milan coach Alberto Zacceroni said: "We had a good first half, attacking well both down the middle and from the wings. The

whole team moved well. "Unfortunately, we failed to exploit all the chances we created and in the second half we just concentrated on defending the result... in the last half hour we were playing in slippers not

football boots." AS Roma had no such ouble beating Vicenza 3-0 at the Olympic stadium. Eusebio Di Francesco, Marco Delvecchio and Carmine Gautieri African ace Phil Masinga opened the scoring as Bari headed for a 3-1 victory over David Plan's

Salernitana drew 1-1 with Piacenza, with both sides having a man sent off in the 81st minute for a mutual kicking session, and Udinese drew 0-0 with Empoli,

Sampdoria.

erful inner circle and considered a possible candidate to succeed Juan Antonio Samaranch as president. Lake City bribery scandal.

> Samaranch told The Associated Press last week that 13 IOC members had been implicated in the Salt

Lake investigation.

Kim said he was asked by the IOC to clarify his 1991 Russian teen-age student enroll in a U.S. school at the request of Russian IOC

"It was simply an effort to help a triend." Kim said.

on opening night

front of a trio of Swedes

South Africa's Olympic

champion Penny Heyns

maintained her superiority

over Australia's Samantha Riley in the 100-meter

The South African said

"I expected Sam would

she went out a bit harder

Monday and felt it in the

be right there at the end,

just like she was in

Dunn continued his domi-

nance of the 400-metre

Christian Keller at the

Sydney," Heyns said.

Australian to win

fast-finishing

Matthew

Germany's

although he

led by Josefin Lillhage.

bidding for the 1998 Winter Games, which awarded in 1991 to Nagano, Japan, In 1995. Salt Lake won the right to stage the 2002

Monday that he also had received notification from investigation. He said he was asked for explanations regarding his request for free medical treatment of a for receiving a hunting rifle as a gift during a trip to Salt

his hat-trick, taking his extraordinary goalscoring record this season to 17 in 17 matches.

MILAN (AFP)

Fiorentina were crowned

Champions" Sunday night

- but celebrations were

marred by yet another

superb performance from

their emerging title rivals

Gabriel Batistuta bagged

a hat-trick as Fiorentina

rallied to beat 10-man Cagliari 4-2 in the after-

noon, while Parma's

chances of finishing top on

goal difference evaporated

when Lazio bear them 3-1 a

Sunday ended with

Fiorentina top on 35 points

and Parma and Lazio joint

second on 32 -- two points

The unofficial winter title

is awarded after 17 of the

34 matches in the season

and statistics show that

a 68 per cent chance of

winning the league title the

However, Lazio look an

even better bet for the title

after their convincing first

ever win at Parma, their

sixth consecutive victory

coming a week after

demolishing Fiorentina 2-0

And Fiorentina's victory

was not as impressive as

the scoreline in Florence

They were trailing 2-1

before volatile Brazilian

Edmundo hit an equaliser

and Batistuta brought up

at the Olympic stadium.

might suggest.

"Winter Champions" have

lew hours later.

ahead of AC Milan.

following spring.

after a near upset. Giovanni Trapattoni said: "I wasn't frightened of los-

"I would have been dis-"For the football we've played these last few

pin Alessandro Nesta and striker Christian Vieri, who has scored in all three matches since coming back on January 6.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — A jockey died of severe head injuries when his horse somersaulted over him 50 metres (yards) from the finish line, a newspaper said Monday. Jockey Craig Magua, 36, died after the accident Sunday at Gosforth Park, Magua's mount, 33-1 Whistling Nun, stumbled and fell for no apparent reason. The Star of Johannesburg reported. Magua is the first jockey in more than 40 years to die from injuries sustained in a race in South Africa, the SAPA news agency said.

Argentinian injured in race mishap

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Argentinian sailor Hector Romero fractured his leg Monday when his boat capsized in a wind squall during the Laser Master world championship on Port Phillip Bay. Romero, at 76 the oldest competitor in the fleet, was one of five sailors who got into difficulties as the squall capsised more than 50 of the single-headed dinghies during the last race of the day. Romero was taken to a local hospital where he was reported in good condition. In Monday's first race. Britain's Mark Littlejohn scored his third successive win in the Apprentice Master Division (35-44 year age group) while Australian Jack Schlachter sailed to the lead in the Masters Division (45-54). In the opening round-robin of match-racing for the Soling class. American skipper Jeff Madrigali and his crew came

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Former AC Milan star Dejan Savicevic signed a six-month contract Monday with his old club, Red Star Belgrade, Savicevic, 32, had played a major role in AC Milan's European Champions Cup and other Italian league titles since 1992. He was known as the "genius" by AC Milan fans in Italy. But the skillful midfielder's career lately has been plagued by injuries. At last year's World Cup in France, Savicevic played only two lackluster games for Yugoslavia. After the tournament, Savicevic could not find a foreign contract. The Montenegrin played for Red Star between 1986 and 1991 and was part of the team when it won the European Champions Cup in 1991, beating Olimpique Marseilles in the finals in Bari, Italy, on penalty kicks. Savicevic's decision to sign with Red Star and play in the Yugoslav league was likely based on his desire to play for a Yugoslav team and find another foreign contract later this year or next year.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jockev killed in South African race

through unbeaten with seven straight wins.

Former AC Milan player Savicevic reioins Red Star

Fonseca's equaliser — a Politicians adopt anti-doping code

BONN (AFP) - The Ministers of the 15 European Union member-states have adopted on Monday a joint eight-point programme against doping in sport after meeting in the Bonn suburb of Bud Godesberg.

This first informal meeting of the Ministers of Sport. working to guidelines from the Vienna summit held in December, adopted a common position ahead of the world doping conference to be held in Lausanne from February 2-4.

The meeting called for a European Union-level offensive against doping, the harmonisation and coordination of national measures and basic global standards.

The declaration says the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has a particular responsability to lead the fight against doping and demanded that the IOC's planned anti-doping agency should be independent and

The European Union called for a system of sanctions against guilty competitors and also said that, when sport governing bodies failed to act decisively, that the onus was on the state to take action.

Ministers hope to hold another meeting before the Lausanne conference and will meet in Germany from May 31 to June 2 to put the finishing touches to an antidoping package.

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Sainz hopes early exit is an omen

MONTE CARLO (AFP) Double world cham-pion Carlos Sainz Sainz delieves his opening meetal stage exit in the Monte Carlo Rally here on Monday could herald world championship-Winning season. Spaniard wight out by the

treacherous Alpine ice drain on the very first comer of the stage. Sainz, who has won in Monte Carlo three times including last year, mantend to get back onto

But just five miles off in the French Aps — this time bring-an end to his victory pes in the first rally of

Championship.
Despite his disappointment, he believes the poor start to the campaign could be a bless-^{ing} in disguise.

Sainz said: "It's not the best way to start the scason and I am really disappointed. On the Other hand. I am reassured by the fact that each time I have won at Monte Carlo, I have not become world champich out ter chance of winning the world title this seaon Perhaps this exit is

terrible. There was ice everywhere and we damaged the front of the car. Fortunately we could carry on despite



Finland's World Champion Tommi Makinen and his co-driver Risto Mannisenmaki negotiate a turn in their Mitsubishi Lancer during the special 31.15 km-stage of the 67th Monte-Carlo Rally Monday January 18, 1999. (AP photo)

the damage.

"However, the hood flew up and, because we could not see anything. we hit a patch of ice and spun off. We were too far off the road to

Former world rally champion Colin McRae made a steady start on his debut for Ford, finishing the stage — the longest in the rally - in 10th place.

McRae, racing under appeal while the dispute over the legality of the new Ford Focus is decided, clocked 37min 56.4secs on the stage.

But the time was still nearly three-and-a-half minutes down on Tommi Makinen, who launched the defence of his world crown in impressive style.

Makinen, bidding for a fourth successive title, clocked 34:36.4 in his Mitsubishi — nearly 38secs quicker than secplaced Gilles ond Panizzi.

The Finn could not have wished for a better start, with Sainz expected to be his chief rival for the world championship - going out so early.

The Toyota team quickly revealed that Sainz had damaged the front of the car in the first crash, which caused the bonnet to fly up later and send him crashing

Richard Britain's Burns also had a early scare as he went off the asphalt road, which was almost completely covered in ice. But Burns, in his first

outing for Subaru since replacing McRae, managed to keep going to finish the first stage in 12th place.

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